

THIS STUDENT LIFE, PAGE 8

tenen Andrew Neil's Fleet Street

MEDIA, PAGE 14

INTHE TUESDAY REVIEW+HEALTH



SPECIAL OFFER

Two for one **Caribbean flights**

REVIEW, PAGE 8 TOKEN COLLECT

FA is called in over 'missing' transfer fees

THE FOOTBALL Association By STEVE BOGGAN has been asked to launch an inquiry into the transfer of the amount expected by the Chifirst two Chinese professionals to play in England after an investigation by The Indepen-

shortfall in the deal. Mark Goldberg, the chairman of Crystal Palace, asked for £1.35m for the players in Au-FA help yesterday after the gust. However, in a series of inpaper's inquiries revealed a huge gap in the amount he Chinese Football Association agreed for the players - Fan and the players' clubs told The

nese football authorities. The pair of Chinese players joined Palace after Terry Venables, the dent uncovered a £400,000 former England coach, was appointed manager in June.

The club agreed to pay terviews, officials of the and the amount which the Chi-Zhiyi and Sun Jihai - and the Independent they were ex-

pecting just \$1.5m - a difference of £400,633 at August's ex-

the matter at a board meeting today, said last night: "We are disturbed to learn that there is apparently a major discrepancy between the transfer fee, which we agreed with officials of the Chinese FA in London, nese FA in Beijing are said to have launched an immediate in-

quiry and have asked the Eng-lish FA to assist us." Lawrence, had been paid just £25,000 plus VAT for introduc-

The Independent has es-Mr Goldberg, who is to raise tablished that the difference cannot be accounted for by normal levels of agents' fees usually about 10 per cent. The Chinese authorities said that their European agent, Greatgate Overseas Development Ltd, known in China as Gaode, was to be paid 10 per cent from their \$1.5m.

Mr Goldberg said the only English agent involved, Tom

However, Mr Lawrence had said earlier that neither he nor his company, Strata Sports Marketing Ltd, was involved in

ing the players and helping

with their work permits - a sum

separate from the transfer fee.

any way. In spite of repeated requests for clarification, Mr Lawrence has failed to explain the club's insistence of his

involvement. When told of the £400,000 gap, Mr Venables, who has no role in the financial management of the club, replied: "Well thank goodness transfers have nothing to do with me any more - I am just the coach. You will have to talk to the chairman

Liu Shijun, the official Chinese representative in the deal, whose Greatgate company is based in Brondesbury, northwest London, refused to discuss the transfer fees. He said that a confidentiality clause had

been written into the contract. Palace, who for 14 months was Peking-born Mr Liu has been forging links between Chi-nese and Western clubs since 1994, when football in China became professional. In 1996, he arranged a tour of China and agreed a transfer fee of \$800,000

Hong Kong by the England team during Mr Venables' tenure as national coach. for Fan. Other sources in China and the UK said Dalian had Arrangements at the English end were made by Mr Lawrence's company. Mr Liu also knows Ted Buxton, Mr

Chinese national team coach. There is no suggestion that anyone involved in the transfer deal behaved improperly. The chairman of Shanghai Shenhua, Yu Zhifei, said his club had

agreed \$700,000 for Sun. The first of four instalments has been paid to the Chinese FA. Cash riddle of China's star

players, page 4

. Blair turns the screw on Saddam

A SHIFT of policy to topple Sad- BY COLIN BROWN dam Hussein has been agreed between President Bill Clinton and Tony Blair, it emerged last

line with the tough message from Washington that the aim of US and British policy should from power a shift from the previous emphasis on containing the threat from Iraq.

We are looking with the Americans now at ways in which we can bolster the opposition and improve the possibility of removing Saddam Hussein altogether. I entirely share the sentiments President Clinton expressed on that point," the Prime Minister told

2.7

The two leaders were due to have more talks by telephone last night. Officials in London said the help for the Iraqi opposition would focus on propaganda, and broadcasting criticism of President Saddam's regime in Iraq. America has already set up Radio Free Iraq in Prague to broadcast news and propaganda to Iracis.

There could also be a fresh blockade of oil shipments in the Gulf, following evidence that Chief Political Correspondent AND ANDREW MARSHALL in Washington

Mr Blair yesterday fell into President Saddam is earning with extra oil sales.

and London said that as long as President Saddam remained in power, the threatened use of chemical or biological weapons in the Middle East would remain. But efforts to arm the opposition factions would represent a highly dangerous strategy, they added.

Both the Central Intelligence Agency and British security services have previously given assistance to the Iraci opposition in its efforts to topple Saddam, but the results have been half-hearted and have had catastrophic results. Right-wing Republicans in the US Congress want to step up this strategy, and pushed through \$97m (C58m) in support for the Iraqi opposition earlier this year, including a provision that could allow surplus US mil-

itary equipment to be used. The London-based Iraqi National Congress (INC), one of

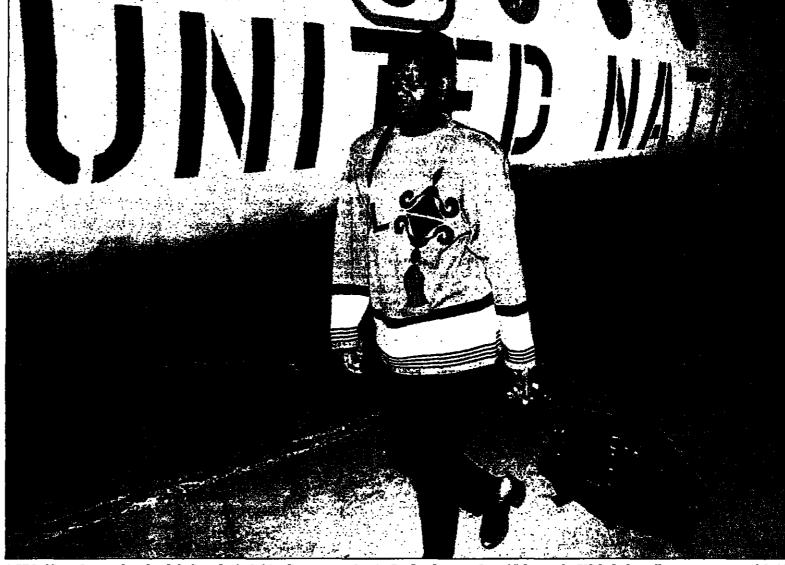
welcomed the British and American initiatives.

We are certain that the Iraqi people will take heart from President Clinton's stateprecious dollars to sustain his ment and are ready to take up position by busting sanctions that responsibility," said a state-

Ahmed Chalabi, the head of the INC, was in Washington yesterday to gather support for his group's efforts to overthrow President Saddam.

We need some resources and political support but the primary responsibility for liberating Iraq falls on the Iraqi people," he said. However, both `Britain and the US have reservations about Mr Chalabi, and have backed other groups as well as the INC at different

Any move to overthrow President Saddam would cause widespread unease in the Middle East and among America's allies, and yesterday France was quick to criticise the effort. "It is not in the French political and diplomatic tradition to announce such plans for interference and action," said the Foreign Minister, Hubert Vedrine. "France insists on respecting Iraq's sovereignty, ter-



A UN aid worker arrives back in Iraq last night, after evacuation to Jordan last week amid fears of a US-led air strike

Jamal Saidi

ritorial integrity and political in- to action before the Iraqi climbdependence," said a French foreign ministry statement.

Mr Blair warned that if there were more breaches of the fresh undertakings by Iraq, force would be used without warning. He also revealed how close British forces had come

Mr Blair said on Saturday morning he gave the final authorisation for air strikes later that afternoon, but Mr Clinton took the decision to delay the strikes soon after 1pm London

time. According to reports in

Washington, several of his advisors - including the Secretary of Defense. William Cohen, and Madeleine Albright, the Secretary of State - wanted him to

ness on but he overruled them

Aid to opposition, page 14 Tough inspectors, page 14 Fury in Baghdad, page 15

British Steel sacks 1,600 and warns of recession

BRITISH STEEL warned the By Michael Harrison Government yesterday that the economy is heading for a fullblown recession, and said it would have to scrap at least 3,000 jobs this year.

The company, still regarded as a beliwether of British industry, also warned that it may have to order a complete shutdown of its four main plants, in South Wales and on the Northeast coast, over Christmas.

The gloomy prognosis contrasted with a keynote speech by Tony Blair last night in which he strongly defended his strategy and proclaimed Labour as the natural party of economic

in his speech to the Lord Mayor's banquet at Guildhall in London, Mr Blair insisted that the Government was "not the slightest bit complacent" about man, contested the forecast by not in a minus situation next

AND ANDREW GRICE

job losses, but added: "We are firm. We need hard-headed realism here, a sense of perspective about the present, and real determination about the

He sought to underline his commitment to sound finances, saying: "Nothing matters more to me than our ability to manage the economy."

British Steel said profits slumped by 25 per cent in the first half of this year, and a combination of the strong pound, a collapse in prices, faltering demand and a surge in cheap imports are likely to push the

Sir Brian Moffat, the chair-



the Chancellor, Gordon Brown. that the economy would grow

by 1 to 1.5 per cent next year. He said that manufacturing industry was already in recession and that the rest of the econocompany into a loss for the full my was likely to follow suit. "We will be lucky if we are

year," he said, referring to economic growth.

The British Steel chairman is the second senior industrialist to dispute the Chancellor's optimistic forecasts in recent

Last week the chief executive of British Telecom, Sir Peter Bonfield, said that growth next year was likely to slow to between zero and 1 per cent.

British Steel axed 2,000 jobs last year and a further 1,400 in the first half of this year. But it has been forced to accelerate the job-cutting programme and the indications are that at least 1,600 jobs will go in the second half of the year from the company's 47,000 strong workforce. The company also warned

that compulsory redundancies were now likely. Outlook, page 21

Hague to get a makeover

CONNOISSEURS OF naffness will mourn their passing, but the days of William Hague wearing a baseball cap or grooving on down at the Notting Hill Carni-

val appear to be over for good. In an attempt to rid the Tory leader of his "young fogey image, a senior editor of the men's fashion bible, GQ magazine, is to be appointed as his

personal style consultant. John Morgan, associate editor at GQ and editor of Debrett's Guide to Etiquette and Modern Monners, will advise Mr Hague on every aspect of his dress

sense and public conduct. The appointment of Mr Morgan, 39, described as a "Burlington Bertie" character for his immaculate appearance, is the latest move in the drive to improve the Tories' image. Advisers believe Mr Morgan will act

SARAH SCHAEFER

as a gentle brake on style crimes as the Tory leader attempts to appear both statesmanlike and in touch with today's youth.

News of the post came as the Tories' Creative Forum thinktank met yesterday for the first time to discuss how to rebrand the party. The idea of the party vice-chairman and former Asda boss, Archie Norman, it will look at plans to swap the traditional Tory attachment to the colour blue with a mixture of

purple, turquoise and green. When questioned about his appointment, Mr Morgan remained true to his own edict on loyalty and good manners. His office said: "He doesn't discuss

Styling Hague, page 5

INSIDE THIS SECTION

Animal testing ends The use of animals for testing cosmetic products has stopped Home P3

Bombing appeal The appeal of the Hyde Park bomber began Home P9

Indonesian armed forces are not under control, government admits Foreign P16

Gangster terror A violent crime wave has hit Bombay Foreign P17 HOME 2-13, FOREIGN 14-18, BUSINESS 20-26, SPORT

insurance takeover <u>Insurance giant Axa</u> could buy Guardian Royal Exchange Business P20

Crawley attacked England cricketer John Crawley was assaulted Sport P32 CROSSWORD 32, WEATHER

INSIDE THE REVIEW David Aaronovitch Our political culture is mediocre, sectarian and deeply parochial

Hamish McRae Why digital television will change the world Comment P5

Childiess by choice Why those who don't want to have children are fighting back Features P9

Bridget Riley Tom Lubbock on the op artist par excellence Arts P11

Alternative therapy Professor Edzard Ernst on the claims of homoeopathy Health P12

Camilia revisited Ann Treneman on the remaking of a consort

TODAY'S TELEVISION PAGE 20

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PRIMUS



IN THE INDEPENDENT TOMORROW

We have some bad news for you, Mandy. Barry has no idea who you are

BARRY MANILOW SINGS THE SONGS, YOU ASK THE QUESTIONS

THEATRE: PAUL TAYLOR ON PINTER **BETRAYAL AND** TIME TRAVEL PLUS YOUR MONEY

THE BEST WRITING IS IN 'THE INDEPENDENT' EVERY WEEK: DEBORAH ROSS, HOWARD JACOBSON, HAMISH MCRAE, MARK STEEL, ROBERT FISK, JOHN WALSH, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, ANNE MCEIVOY, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD

Damaged patients call for inquiry

scandal involving a series of AND JEREMY LAURANCE botched operations by an incompetent surgeon was urged yesterday to hold a public inquiry into what went wrong.

Rodney Ledward, consultant press about him being struck gynaecologist at the William Kent, demanded that hospital managers investigate how he was allowed to continue operating unfettered for 16 years.

More than 200 people packed a public meeting in Folkestone last night to hear hospital managers explain why Mr Ledward, who was struck off the medical register two months ago, was not stopped sooner. Mr Ledward was found guilty of serious professional misconduct by the General Medical Council after he committed gross errors and carried out unnecessary surgery on 10 women between 1989 and 1996.

Ann Dowling, 58, had a hysterectomy performed by Mr Ledward in 1985 which left her with a hole in her bladder, making her incontinent. She had several further operations but was forced to leave her job as a stewardess on a cross-Channel ferry and has been registered disabled since 1991. into what went wrong.

A HOSPITAL at the centre of a RV GLENDA COOPER

meeting, she said: "I'm extremely angry. I thought it was bad luck and I was the only one Angry women patients of until I saw the reports in the off. I was incensed. I want to see Harvey hospital in Ashford, a public inquiry into why his poor performance was never

Since the GMC case ended six weeks ago, the hospital has been overwhelmed with calls from women who believe they may have been injured by him. Up to last night 184 had contacted a hotline and 98 had been seen as outpatients. Of those, doctors say 24 have "continuing medical problems".

The GMC verdict was based on 10 cases in which operations were botched or should not have gone ahead, but scores more women have come forward since and more than 40 are considering legal action.

The meeting has been organised by the South-east Kent Community Health Council and will be attended by the South Kent hospitals NHS Trust and legal representatives of some of the women. It is expected to hear demands for an inquiry Speaking before last night's An earlier meeting organ-

ised by the patients' support group heard claims that Mr Ledward allegedly turned up for operations wearing hunting gear, and once boasted he was the fastest gynaecologist in the South-east after completing seven hysterectomies between

A spokeswoman for the William Harvey hospital said that its medical director, Dr Noel Padley, would be attending the meeting as would a con-sultant obstetrician to listen to the women's complaints.

"We are concerned firstly with women who do have a medical problem," said the spokeswoman. "They can take their own legal advice, or we have a claims department and if they have a case they can settle through us."

geon wrongly told them they needed urgent private treatment at St Saviour's hospital in Hythe, Kent. Others, including women in their twenties, allege he removed their wombs and ovaries unnecessarily.

Patricia Fearnley, a solicitor from Thomas Snell and Passmore, is giving legal advice to 35 women. "Many are saying this man has blighted their lives forever. One woman has who claim they were similarly a routine hysterectomy at St through. The patient was taken ties after undergoing training contacted me claiming her treated. It's heartbreaking to Saviour's, run by Bupa. It to the William Harvey where hospital officials said yesterday.



Rodney Ledward was found guilty of serious misconduct after an inquiry into cases stretching back to 1989

ovaries had been removed by Mr Ledward," she said.

The patients' support group is led by Brenda Johnson, a patient of Mr Ledward's who has suffered 14 years of pain. "I suffered brutal surgery and was left bleeding for hours, during which time Mr Ledward could

not be contacted," she said. "I am speaking to women

able to have children."

Mr Ledward's incompetence first came to light in January 1996 after an operation on Christine Laverty, who is aged 42 an dhas three children. The investigation it began exposed a pattern of malpractice going back

hear some women who are not almost cost her her life. Mr Ledward perforated her bladder and damaged her uterus. Despite the clear evidence of the injuries he had caused, blood in

> left her at the hospital. As Ms Laverty's condition deteriorated, staff tried to contact Mr Ledward on his mobile phone, but could not get

John Davies, a colleague of Mr Ledward's, was so shocked by

what he saw that he contacted the hospital's medical director. **■** Consultant surgeon Douglas the urine, he stitched her up and Irving, suspended from Stracathro hospital, Brechin, since July after breast and colorectal cancer patients were not given the right treatment, will only be able to resume his du-

Rebels reject loyalty tests

BY ANDREW GRICE Political Editor

TONY BLAIR will be warned today the "control freakery" displayed by the Labour's leadership is counter-productive because it is damaging the party's standing with the voters,

Left-wing members of Labour's ruling National Executive Committee (NEC) intend to tackle Mr Blair over the series of rows about the selection of party candidates for London mayor and the Scottish and Welsh assemblies.

A new controversy over the determination of the leadership to impose its will on the party broke out over a plan, disclosed in The Independent yesterday, to force sitting MPs to appear before a selection panel before they can stand again. Critics protested that it would become a "loyalty test".

Despite fears among some ministers that Mr Blair is fighting internal battles on too many fronts, the Prime Minister will make an uncompromising defence of his strategy at today's NEC meeting.

He is so keen to answer the allegations that he is a "control freak", he also plans to make an unscheduled address to Labour MPs on the issue.

Mr Blair will make "no apology" for showing strong leadership. One ally said last night: "He does not want to impose anything from on high, but he does want structures which ensure a disciplined and effec-

But Mr Blair's authority will challenged by the four left wingers who were elected to the NEC in September against his wishes. They attend their first meeting of the executive today, which takes place amid allegations that party officials want to "gag" them by imposing a code on how NEC members handle the media.

Mark Seddon, one of the left-wingers, said last night that he would not be bound by

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impton

Surgeon once did seven hysterectomies in four hours

RODNEY LEDWARD was a BY KIM SENGUPTA flamboyant man fond of describing himself "the fastest gy-naecologist in the South-east" after completing seven hysterectomies in four hours.

He was not a man who be- cent times. lieved in hiding his professional success or the material rewards it brought. But behind it lay a tale of appalling pro- and reassurance. He had 33 ford. There were also lucrative career surged ever upwards, as as one of the opinion formers

fessional neglect which left hundreds of women damaged in what has become one of the worst medical scandals in re-

To the outside world, the 58-year-old consultant surgeon presented an image of expertise

up an international reputation East, and the editorship of a at Rutgers medical school in the in his field

It got him an income of more than £260,000 a year, £200,000 of which came from his private practice at St Saviour's in shire. After qualifying from Hythe, Kent. The rest came London and Liverpool, where from an NHS job at the William he earned a reputation for Harvey Hospital in nearby Ash- ambition and hard work, his 1980s, liked to think of himself

Saudi Arabian medical jour-

Rodney Spencer Ledward was born in Stone, Stafford-

BRITAIN TODAY

the US, he obtained a lecturing post at the Royal London, and he produced a series of papers on gynaecology and ob-

Mr Ledward, who joined the William Harvey in the early

LIGHTING UP

4.19pm 4.12pm 4.19pm 4.07pm 4.09pm 4.09pm 4.00pm

HIGH TIDES

AIR QUALITY Today's readings

SUN & MOON

years' experience and had built lecture tours in the Middle- he became a visiting professor in his field, according to col-He has a home near Hythe. believed to be worth more than

£400,000, and another at Tower Bridge in London. He married Lady Jane Annabelle Howard in 1983 and they have a 13year-old son, Bertie. The family liked to take part in country

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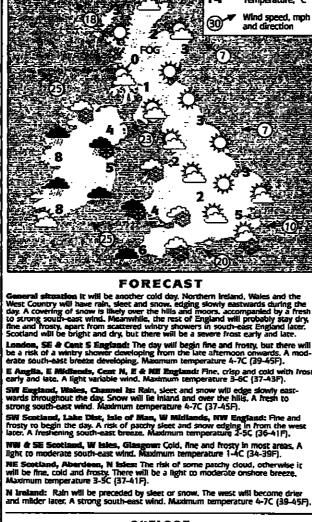
missed without compensation but he is still entitled to an NHS pension, which is believed to be around half his salary. Although he has not worked in this country since his dismissal from the hospital post, he is thought to have applied for worked in Kuwait and Dubai, and sought lecturing assignments abroad.

YESTERDAY THE WORLD EUROPE NOON TODAY EXTREMES Warmest: Jersey 8C (46F) Coldest (day): Ariemore 3C (37F) st: Hemsby 0.51 ins est: Gosport 8.2 hrs 0.35 0.06 0.08 0.01 0.01

THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY Low S will drift south-east and fill. Lows P and Γ will move north-east. High C will drift east.

THE WORLD YESTERDAY

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NW & SE Scotland, W Isles, Glasgow: Cold, fine and frosty in most areas, A light to moderate south-east wind. Maximum temperature 1-4C (34-39F). NE Scotland, Abercieen, N Isles: The risk of some parchy cloud, otherwise in will be fine, cold and frosty. There will be a light to moderate onshore breeze, Maximum temperature 3-5C (37-41F).

OUTLOOK Mednesday will stay mostly cold, fine and frosty, although the south-west will start douby. Wintry showers will affect costern coasts of England. On Thursday, a band of rain, sleet and snow will edge into the west, but the east will stay fine and cold.

ondon: A41 Finchley Rd. From Swiss oftage to Fortune Green, Major works at inchiey Rd Gyratory. Until 31st December lerkehine: M4 between J9/9 (Majdenhead

Euglidinghameshire: M40 between junctions 1a. (M25) & 3. (Wycombe East). Three narrow laries both ways and a 50 mph speed limit in longs. Unit 1st January 1999.

Bristoi: M5 J18-18. Major Roadworks on Avormouth Bridge. Unit 1st January 2001. Northolic. AA7 Hardworks Roundsbout, Kings. Lynn (A10). Readworks between the pullover roundabout and the Hardwick Roundsbout. Unit 13th December 1998. roundabout and Until 13th Dece



0 0.17 0.06 0 COME RAIN OR SHINE... MOTORISTS unable to get into their cars after the central locking systems seized up are blaming the weather. Drivers who park along an 80m stretch of Tarmac in Chipping Camden, Gloucestershire, can only open the doors when the cars are lifted on to a truck and towed away from the mysterious black spot. Police are barfled. Wintry weather, electricity pylons and radio interference have all been blamed.

Animal testing banned – but for the victims the change is only cosmetic

By JOHN DAVISON

HEATRE: PAUL LOR ON PINTER

MAYAL AND IE THAVEL LUS YOUR

I KI IN

REJOICING THROUGHOUT the animal rights world over the government ban on testing cosmetic ingredients yesterday was tempered by the knowledge that this will only affect a tiny percentage of all animal testing, and could simply move the problem abroad.

Cruelty-conscious shoppers looking for a new tube of foundation cream today can be no more certain that their chosen product has been developed without the use of animals than they were before the ban came

into effect, campaigners say.

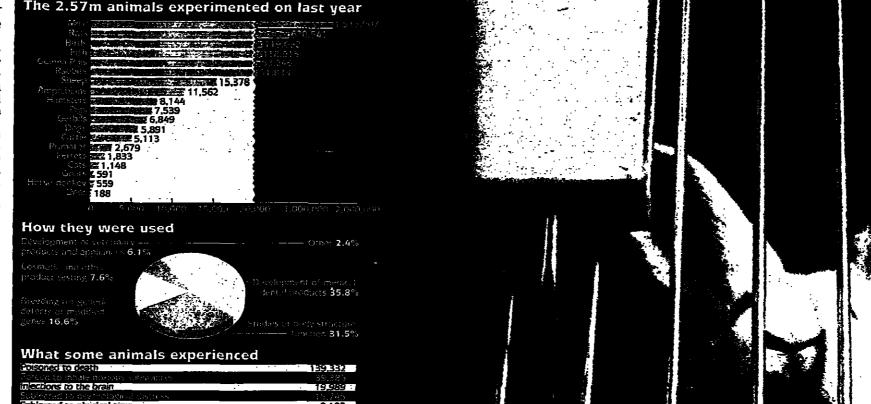
The fact remains that this is not going to stop the vast majority of products on the shelves being animal-tested," said Mike Baker, chief executive of the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection (BUAV).

Home Office statistics for show that of the 2.64 million "procedures" carried out in Britain on animals last year, which resulted in the deaths of the most involved, only 1,266 related to testing cosmetics or their ingredients. Testing in the areas of genetic engineering and defence research, meanwhile, are growing dra-

The immediate problem for the campaigners is that Britishbased cosmetics companies already buy most of the ingredients for their products abroad, where the ban does not apply. Those carrying out their own testing in the UK can now have the work done in any number of European laboratories.

It is estimated that more than 30,000 experiments to test cosmetic products were carried out last year in European Union countries, of which about 27,000 took place in France alone.

In addition France, together with the United States and Japan, are the bases for the largest companies, such as L'Oreal, Procter & Gamble and Shiseido, which make most of of testing has been stopped by the cosmetics on sale in this country. These are the countries



imals for cosmetic purposes had voluntarily agreed to give them up. The Home Office will not be issuing any new licences. Despite drawbacks, cam-

paigners conceded that the move constitutes a major advance for their cause. "This is the first time that a whole class government action because it is seen to be not worth the sufwhere most testing takes place. fering involved," Mr Baker said.

After years of the industry saying that these tests are necessary, it is now admitting that you don't need to do them.'

Both said the argument would now also be moved ahroad, and that campaigning would continue until a worldwide ban was achieved.

The next stage is to lobby the EU to strengthen regulations due to be introduced at the end of this month. At present, these The British ban came into ef. . Andrew Tyler, director of finished products, as was the established as valid for cos-testing at any stage after scruti- show a downward trend - the Defence, are separate from double the number used in 1992. fect with the announcement. Animal Aid, agreed: "It is a very case in Britain before yesterday. metics they could then be my by independent inspectors. 1997 total was 3 per cent down those published by the Home

for a tougher ban on ingredients

This would be extremely significant, because while it would be relatively easy for companies to move their testing to Europe, it would be far more expensive to take it all to the US or Japan," Mr Baker said.

If only from an economic motive this would encourage the development of alternative tests, and once these had been found to be free from animal yesterday that the companies useful and important marker. But hopes are that the Gov- adopted in other areas which

Ultimately, campaigners are greed that the real power to effect change will come from consumers. To that end the first internationally recognised "cruelty-free" cosmetics symbols are being launched today

currently rely on animal tests.

called The Humane Cosmetics Standard. The idea is that this

backed by sympathetic stars, including Helen Mirren, and

will be stamped on products

outraged consumers. Government figures show more than one-third of all animal tests currently being carried out in Britain are related to pharmaceutical and medical research and development. Almost another third was accounted for by "fundamental research", often carried out at universities and

standing of animal biology While figures continue to Other areas of animal testing, on the previous year - the area Office and predictably shroud-

of genetic testing has shown a large increase as this technology has grown in importance. Experiments involving "genetically manipulated animals". for instance, numbered 352,732 - a rise of 64 per cent since 1995.

"This is the new animal abuse for the 21st century. It seems that we are finding increasingly advanced ways to designed to increase undercause suffering," Mr Baker said.

Figures for animal experimentation by the Ministry of periments in 1996, more than

ed in secrecy. Public outcry has followed the revelation of the widespread use of animals for testing ammunition, weapons systems and medical procedures. This includes shooting and blasting pigs, be-

cause of the similarity of their

flesh to that of humans. Statistics obtained by Animal Aid for the Porton Down research establishment show 11.221 animals were used in ex-Leading article.

Morton to tell 'Monica's Story' in six-figure deal

Number of experiments each year

the biography of the late Diana, Princess of Wales, has found another subject - Monica Lewinsky.

Mr Morton has signed up with British publisher Michael money; she could have got O'Mara to write Monica's much higher prices else-Story and tell her side of the where. She likes the idea of an events that threatened to top- author who is used to writing ple President Bill Clinton. The sympathetic books about deal, along with the rights to television interviews, will comfortably make Miss Lewinsky a millionaire and earn Mr in a forced silence for legal rea-Morton a six-figure sum.

The book will be based on exclusive and unrestricted access to Miss Lewinsky and her close family and is expected to detail her affair.

The publishing deal was the the book product of a "strong personal chemistry" between Miss Lewinsky and Mr Morton, Mr O'Mara said. "We put the two of them together in a New York hotel room last week, and she said 'yes' immediately."

ANDREW MORTON, who wrote BY ANDREW MARSHALL in Washington

> said Mr O'Mara, the chairman of London-based Michael O'Mara books. "It wasn't the women who have relationships with powerful men.

Until now, Monica has been sons. But she is keen to give her version of the events. Mr Morton, who lives in

London, has already conducted some preliminary interviews with Miss Lewinsky for

There are, of course, superficial similarities between the stories of Princess Diana and Miss Lewinsky. Both women found fame through romances with eminent men. But that is about as far as it goes. The



fairy-tale princess from St James Palace and the Jewish American "princess" from Los Angeles were very different people, and unlike Princess Diana, Miss Lewinsky's story is unlikely to tear the heartstrings of the world.

Miss Lewinsky's image has

Entitled "Future Genera-

tions", the promotion was made

been ubiquitous for the past year around the world, making her beret and sweep of black hair a favourite costume for fancy-dress parties, but she is hardly the world icon that was Princess Diana.

Yet both turned to Mr Morton because they believed he would put their side of the story at a time when plenty of enemies had other tales to tell.

Miss Lewinsky's is also negotiating a high-paying deal for an exclusive television interview. Channel 4 has bid for an interview, although the New York Post said yesterday Miss Lewinsky has agreed to a US TV interview to coincide with the book's launch.

Landing the television and book deals quickly is regarded as vital for her to cash in before the official report by White House special investigator Kenneth Starr is published, possibly leaving her nothing new to reveal.

POLICE INTERVIEW TAPES SOLD TO PERVERTS. IS THE MET SO HARD UP?



TONIGHT 8-00pm

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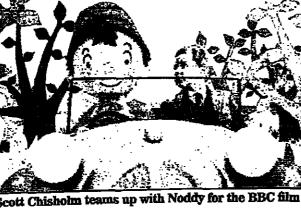
Trumpton fire brigade reunion

Media Correspondent

TRUMPTON'S Pugh, Pugh, Barney, McGrew, Cuthbert, Dibble and Grubb are to star in a new BBC promotion, conceived as the successor to last year's highly-acclaimed "Perfect Day" record.

The promotion will be launched this Friday during the corporation's Children-in-Need charity appeal, and is billed as the biggest reunion in television history", bringing together decades of characters from children's programmes. Instead of being built around a single song. its core is the interaction of characters from different shows, from Andy Pandy and Post-

man Pat to Noddy. In a historical television moment, the Trumpton firemen ap-

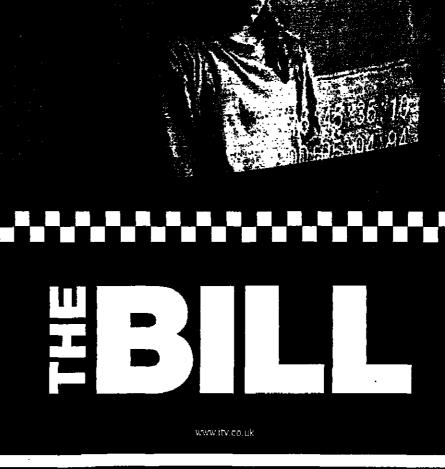


pear on the same set with Dou-five-year old Scott Chisholm, gal and Ermintrude from the the star of a butter commercial. Magic Roundabout and several inhabitants of The Herb Gorden - a feat made possible through extensive reanimation. The video is anchored by

Tammy Wynette and David Bowie. "Perfect Day" had required skilled handling of a number of delicate egos but, said the BBC, there were "fewer sensitivities" involved in bringing together the Woodentops, Pingu and Zebedee.

However, some childhood favourites missed out on a place in the film, with Ivor the Engine and Noggin the Nog both falling to win enough approval. Controversially, the Clangers were also excluded.

The promotion has been tested on focus groups of all ages. Strangely, young people claimed to be well-acquainted with Andy Pandy and Bill and by the editorial team responsi-ble for "Perfect Day", which was based on the Lou Reed song,



TV FROM THE HEART







From left: Fan Zhiyi, the Chinese national captain, Terry Venables, and Sun Jibai. The players are now appearing in the First Division and attracting TV audiences in China

Cash riddle of China's star players

transfer fee," said Liu Shijun, because both sides signed a confidentiality clause. The fee is a secret."

Mr Liu was referring to the first transfer deal between English and Chinese clubs, the initial trickle of Chinese talent that he hopes will become a flood.

As managing director of London-based Greatgate Overseas Development - known in China as Gaode - the European representative of the Chinese Football Association, Mr Liu negotiated the arrival of Fan Zhiyi, the Chinese national captain, and Sun Jihai at Crystal Palace in August

Thanks to him, the players, chosen by Terry Venables, the Crystal Palace manager, are now appearing in the First Division and attracting television audiences in China of more than 100 million viewers.

Sales of Crystal Palace shirts in China are booming – club officials recently joined Tony Blair in Peking during his efforts to boost sales of British

promise of huge television rights next year looms large. But in all the celebrations unanswered questions hang over the deal.

The Independent has uncovered a £400,000 gap between the amount the English club has agreed to pay and the fees the Chinese authorities are expecting to receive.

When news of the Chinese arrivals broke in August, Mr Venables told journalists: "I brought them here because they are good players and I am trying to get the best I can." Crystal Palace and Mr Ven-

the club, said the players were costing "around half a million pounds each."

That was the figure most reported by the media at the 1995.

retary, Mike Hurst, told The Independent that the fees finally agreed amounted to £1.35m -£700,000 for Fan, from Shanghai

the Chinese teams are to receive much less: in fact, at August's exchange rate, £400,633

Mr Liu's offices in Brondesbury Park, north-west London, are adorned with posters representing his triumphs at promoting Anglo-Chinese ties. On one wall is a colourful

picture of the England goalkeeper David Seaman, covered in bright Chinese characters and representing the England tour of China in 1996, while Mr Venables was the national coach.

tional side.

China in 1996, when Terry Ven-

ables was the national team

He said that Mr Venables

"did much to promote Chinese

football" with the tour, which

was arranged through Tom

Lawrence, an English agent.

He said that he also dealt

On another wall is a picture ables, who has no involvement of the Chinese national side, in the financial management of taken during a tour of England in 1997; on another side of the room is a picture of Premiership champions Arsenal taken during their tour of China in

Peking-born Mr Liu, 44, a law But this month the club sec- graduate from King's College, London, arranged them all. He has been forging links between the Chinese FA and Western clubs since 1994, when

fessional. The Chinese Football who worked as coach to the Chi-Association wants more and nese national team in 1996 and more of its players to play in

the West in the hope that ex-It is normal in international transfers for agents' fees to be this apparent contradiction. posure to higher standards of football with improve the nataken into account. In most deals, each side will have an It was against that backagent, usually paid about 10 per ground that Mr Liu helped to organise an England tour of

In this deal, however, that cannot explain the apparent gap between the fees to be paid and received.

Mark Goldberg, the chairman of Crystal Palace - who did not from the English club. not know of the discrepancy until it was disclosed to him by The Independent - said Mr Lawrence was paid £25,000 plus with Mr Lawrence during the VAT for the introduction to Mr agent, it can only get money transfer of the Chinese players, Liu and for helping the players and knows Ted Buxton, a Ven- to gain work permits.

that he had not been involved in the deal at all and took no fees. He has not responded to repeated requests to explain

So what of the Chinese end of the deal?

Yu Zhifei, the Shanghai Shenhua chairman, said that any sums paid to Mr Liu should come from the \$1.5m (£930,000) the Chinese clubs are expecting to receive (in four instalments over the next year), and

"According to international practice (Gande's fee) comes from the \$800,000 [for Fan]," he said. "As practice, since it is my

He also said his club would

Fan, but he agreed to the deal for two reasons: "One is that Fan is quite keen on going; another is out of consideration

players go out. "The historical step is very important and will influence the exchange between the two countries and the sports industry. Referring to the price, we are not satisfied with it, for

Ma Kejian, Professional Department Director at the Chinese Football Association, confirmed the figures and pending their inquiry. added that any commissions to Gaode/Greatgate - usually at seven years, said: "This has the rate of 10 per cent - should come as a complete shock. My

Which still leaves the for an explanation - with total

counted for. Mr Goldberg, the flamboyant chairman of Crystal Palace, the club he bought for £25m earlier this year, wishthat this is the first time China's es to maintain a good relationship with the Chinese Football Association but he said yesterday that he also wants to get to the bottom of

the Chinese deal. It now seems that that relationship could be strained. The second of four instalments is almost due to be paid to the Chinese, but directors at the club may decide to put it on hold

Vincent Murphy, a director of be paid from the Chinese end. colleagues and I will be calling



Tony and Cherie Blair receiving jerseys from the Shanghai Shenhua team during their visit to China earlier this year

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Tories call for tax boost to marriage

WILLIAM HAGUE launched a By Paul Waugh ew Conservative Party cru- Political Correspondent sade for the family last night with a call for the Government to use the tax system to en-

courage marriage. In a key policy U-turn, the Tory leader admitted that the former prime minister John Major was wrong to cut the married couple's tax allowance, but claimed that Labour had worsened the situation by ignoring taxation altogether.

Speaking to the Conservative Christian Fellowship, Mr Hague also softened his party's traditional castigation of single mothers, yet insisted that "families need fathers" and that two parents were better than one.

He said that lone parents should be "respected" for their manifesto for the next general hard work in bringing up their children and that broken fam-

the church and politicians. In a coded reference to the party's new tolerance of homosexuality, he also stated that those who led lives "very different from a traditional family pattern" should be free to do so.

Tax policy to aid and pro-mote the family would now form a big part of the Tories'

election, he revealed. To combat the Govern-

ities were a fact of life for both ment's stance on taxation, Mr be "utterly wrong" as the state consolations of opposition was Hague announced that his should not remain "neutral" deputy leader, Peter Lilley. would head a new party task force on the family to tailor every area of policy to encourage marriage.

He claimed that the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, planned to abolish the married couple's tax allowance altogether and, as a result, end years of recognition of marriage within the fiscal system. Such a move would

about marriage and should instead promote it, he said.

Mr Hague said that it was baffling that the ministerial committee on family policy of Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, was expressly forbidden to consider how the tax system might be used.

In his most explicit comments to date on family policy. Mr Hague said that one of the that the Tories were now "free to think" about such issues.

"Looking back, I believe that we were right to introduce independent taxation for men and women, but that we made a mistake in not coupling this with a system of transferable tax allowances between husbands and wives. With hindsight, too. we were wrong to make such significant cuts to the married couple's tax al-

lowance without putting anything else in its place."

In a significant shift from his party's opposition to single mothers and gay couples, Mr Hague said that he would not condemn anyone who chose an alternative lifestyle. "In a free society, that is their choice, and tolerance is one of the hallmarks of a mature and decent society," he said.

However, it was incontrovertible that two parents were

better than one and that children were hurt by divorce. "Families need both fathers and mothers... Government figures show how divorce and single parenthood have added to welfare dependency," he

"It is not for any politician to berate or condemn. The Conservative Party is not against single parents; it is strongly and unreservedly for the institution

Political makeover: What do you do for a man with 'the dress sense of Ann Widdecombe'? A fashion editor writes

How do you make Hague stylish?

BELIEVE IT or not, William By TAMSIN BLANCHARD Hague is a young man. He is a man in his middle youth. Jigsaw's new label, Bailey was designed by the 40-year-old Chris Bailey for men of his age group. If Bailey had the opportunity to dress Mr Hague, who, he says, is "not a bad-looking guy", he would transform him with the preppie look

Td dress him in a buttondown white poplin shirt, not buttoned to the top, worn over a white T-shirt with a black cashmere tanktop so that when he took off his jacket he would still look interesting. The cashmere would say something about the quality of the man." To give him a sharp and serious edge, he would put him in a pinstripe single-breasted suit and finish it off with a pair of Prada's latest moulded shoes.

But Mr Hague's fashion sense is as conservative as his politics. He has been more interested in his career than the label in his suit since he was a Young Conservative in the sartorially challenged 1970s.

He could use his nerdish image to his advantage. Look at Chris Evans: he has turned his is more difficult to get right. pink complexion and ginger hair into a selling-point. By merely adding thick-rimmed how much he tries to soften his specs he made himself an icon. razor-edged suits and flatten his

Fashion Editor

Mr Hague could try the same tactic. He should start with his hair: keeping it a bit longer and dishevelled would give him a human, approachable look. He needs to open his eyes-

maybe tint his eyelashes while he's at it; it's all the rage - and look at his peers in the worlds of music, fashion and entertainment. Politics is no longer now, nor has he. just about beliefs and policies; these days it's all about image. Politicians have to market themselves as a desirable commodity. They have to be able to appear on television chat shows as well as go on walkabouts and attend serious meetings. They have to sparkle and shine.

It is nothing to be ashamed

of. Models and music people regularly have makeovers. Kylie Minogue has had more image changes than hit singles. And whenever Linda Evangelista felt her career was waning, she simply changed the colour of her hair and the milliondollar contracts would come piling in. The political makeover Michael Portillo cannot escape his iron-man image, no matter

hair. But Mr Hague could take a leaf out of Tony Blair's book. It would appear that to get on in Mr Blair's world all you need is a celebrity hairdresser and a hip tailor from New Savile Row.

An Ozwald Boateng or Timothy Everest bespoke suit would guarantee votes. Sadly, Mr Hague is strictly in the Ann Widdecombe school of dressing. She simply just doesn't care what she looks like. And until

Even Barbara Follett, responsible for the New Labour New Image crusade, has got it wrong in the past. Her "lipstick is power" slogan will not do much for Mr Hague's look. Then again, if he were to adopt glittery glam-rock eyeshadow and eye-liner à la Michael Stipes of REM, he might win some respect from the pink vote as well as some credibility with those crucial under-25s.

Then again, maybe not. Ed Needham, editor of FHM, says Mr Hague has gone beyond the point of no return. "He should save his money ... it's going to take more than a makeover. He needs a personality change. I think he's doomed. He's so deeply old-fogey he's just beyond fashion." So he'd never make the cover of FHM? "Not



Mr Hague chilling out at Notting Hill Carnival, and in a pose that the image-makers may have to work on



Burlington Bertie, master of modern manners



ONE OF London's most dapper and affable style journalists, John Morgan is in many ways the perfect choice for William Hague as a politician's per-

sonal consultant. The 39-year-old has worked at Condé Nast's GQ magazine since its launch nearly 10 years ago and is acknowledged as one of Britain's leading commen-tators on male fashion, social

behaviour and lifestyle. A frequent broadcaster on

correct form and dress, his editorship of Debrett's New Guide to Etiquette and Modern Manners has also established him taste. "Morgan's Modern Manners", his weekly column in The Times, gives advice to readers immaculately dressed in a Sav- on personal manners and worried about whether a man should help a woman with her seen by friends as a "Burlingchair at dinner or how many kisses to give a stranger.

bany, the exclusive block off Pic- a foppish English gentleman. bassador for the company as a self," she said. cadilly in central London that Yet his image as a friend to contributing editor. "By charming cadilly in central London that provides a pied-à-terre for Alan minor royals and the landed Clark MP and many other aris- gentry belies a finely attuned which he regularly writes.

ile Row suit and silk tie, is style.

tocrats, he certainly lives the life business sense and he is beas an authority on matters of of gentle sophistication about lieved to make substantial

sums from advising leading Mr Morgan, who is always companies and their directors

gone age, cashing cheques in empire, is known to see Mr selves aggressively. That's ex- Hague's inner secrets."

With an apartment in the Ai- Claridges and living the life of Morgan as much as an am- actly what he has done him-

lisher's Vogue House head- cessfully turned himself into quarters described him as a Britain's leading expert on master of small talk and a con- male style and etiquette. summate networker.

to see a real professional at surprise to see him linked to the work. He frequently tells his Nicholas Coleridge, who clients to turn themselves into ton Bertie" figure from a by- heads Condé Nast's British a brand and market them-

"By charming the right peo-One colleague at the pub- ple at the right time, he has suc-

"He's certainly very much in "To see him work a room is demand by business and it is no Tories. The main thing about John is his sense of discretion. He wouldn't tell a soul about

NEW LOOK FOR OLD



transformed from a housewife to the Iron Lady with small, but crucial, makeovers. Out went bows and ruffled collars and in came suits, a new blonde hairdo and capped teeth. She lowered her voice an octave and mastered the art of the soundbite.



the term "Folletting" after he engaged image consultant and now Labour MP. Barbara Follett to give him and his shadow cabinet a makeover for the 1992 general election. His hair was given a crop and he was coached on a punchier despatch box style of delivery for TV.



effortlessly adapted image advice to please all of the people all of the time. He is equally convincing wearing earthy suits for meeting the people to power dressing for the world stage. He now has a conversational style to include listeners and adopted a stammer to simulate spontaneity.

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hill farmer with his sheep who should be helped by the compensation package announced by the Governmen

Struggling farmers get 3.911 £120m in aid

THE GOVERNMENT threw a By PAUL WAUGH £129m lifeline to Britain's farm-

State for Agriculture, said that would offer extra compensation to livestock farmers hit by the beef ban and poor weather this

In a long-awaited statement to the House of Commons, Mr Brown announced that £48.3m given to beef farmers hit by the collapse in trade following the

Political Correspondent

BSE crisis. A further £60m would be spent on increasing compensation to hard-pressed hill farmers, while the Calf Processing Aid Scheme, which helps farmers kill their calves to prevent a glut on the beef market, will be extended at a cost of over £10m.

More than a third of the package will be funded by the Europear Union, with the rest coming from Treasury re-

Mr Brown told MPs that all farming sectors, but particularly the livestock sector, had been hit by the collapse in European, Russian and Asian markets. In recognition of these extremely difficult circumstances", Chancellor Gordon Brown and Treasury Chief Secretary Stephen Byers had take the exceptional decision to allow access to the reserve. The package, which comes on top of £150m worth of assistance already announced by the Government, follows months of protests by farmers.

beef. He would spend the rest put downward pressure on inof this week talking to his counterparts across Europe to particularly against EU curprepare for a decision by the Council of Ministers at a meet-

The Tories' Agriculture spokesman, Tim Yeo, welclaiming it was in line with his

But the the measures were "necessary palliatives" and treated the symptoms rather lems, he said. "The reason this second farm rescue package in the downturn in farm incomes like the downturn in the whole economy, was made in Down ing Street," he added.

Mr Yeo claimed that farm in comes had dropped by £2hn and that the new package would be worth less than £2,000 to each of the 60,000 UK farms in less favoured areas.

The National Farmer Union gave the package a warm welcome and praised Mr Brown for gaining Government assistance at a time of tight budgets. Ben Gill, the NFU president, said the money would provide a "much needed injection". But he cannot cure all the ills of farmers, particularly for in-Mr Brown said that his next stance, in the pig sector. We task was to persuade the EU to need continued Government lift the export ban on British and Bank of England action to terest rates and sterling,

Leading article, Review, page 3.

Dismembered man identified

THE MURDERED man whose By ESTHER LEACH leg and intestines were found n shopping bags in a Yorkshire forest last week was yesterday identified as Nissar Ahmed, a no clues about the motives be hind his gruesome death.

Family members, who speak little English, identified Mr Ahmed by a burn mark on the discarded leg, which was packed into two carrier bags and thrown into a forest from a remote back lane near Briestfield, a village near Dewsbury, West Yorkshire. The rest of his body has not been found.

Mr Ahmed, 34, who owned a curry house in Holmfirth, West Yorkshire, was last seen on Thursday night when he dropped off two friends he had met after closing his restaurant. Police said yesterday that a nationwide hunt was under way, but they remained mystified about the possible motives for the murder and disembowelling. "It is truly horrific. To think a human being could do such a thing to another human being is totally gruesome," said Detective Superintendent Grabarn Sutherland, who is leading

the inquiry. The leg was found in Aldi and Netto carrier bags on Friday a sleepy village and really no morning by a policewoman walking her dog.

The events in the lead-up to the killing were quite normal. After closing the Sultan, his



Mr Ahmed: Motive for his borrific murder unknown

Mr Ahmed picked up two friends from the takeaway they owned in nearby Skelmanthorpe. He dropped them at their homes in the Manningham area of Bradford, minutes from West Bowling, where he lived, between 12.30 and 1am. Some time after that, he was killed.

He was not reported missing until several hours after the shopping bags were found, because his family thought he had been staying with friends.

Villagers in Briestfield are understandably shocked. "It's one knows we are here," said Beryl Lodge, 53, who manages the local pub. "This has had quite an effect on us all. No one knows if there may be more restaurant, on Thursday night, body parts scattered around."

IN BRIEF

Nove to fight extradition

KENNETH NOYE, the man wanted in Britain for questioning over the fatal stabbing of a man on the M25 told a court in Madrid that he would fighting efforts to extradite him from Spain. Mr Noye, 51, said he did not want to re-turn because he would not receive a fair trial over the 1996 stabbing of Stephen Cameron, 21, at Swanley, Kent.

Men jailed for mid-air brawl

A DRUNKEN man who head-butted a fellow air passenger was yesterday jailed for a year. Anthony Psaila, 61, of Worcestershire, drank whisky because he was petrified of flying, Warwick Crown Court heard. His son Roy, 27, was also jailed for a year for his part in the fracas on board the flight from Birmingham to Malta on 7 April.

18 years for 'tunnel' drug smuggler AN INTERNATIONAL drugs smuggler, who was arrested when his heroin-packed lorry proved too tall for London's Blackwall Tunnel, was jailed for 18 years yesterday. Hamid Shamsollahi was found with £7.28m of high-quality heroin in February when his truck become wedged in the tunnel.

Waterworks for Pooh Bridge

COUNCILLORS IN an East Sussex village are looking at ways of raising the water level at the famous tourist attraction, the stream under Pooh Bridge. The rivulet in Hartfield where AA Milne's Winnie the Pooh and friends played "Pooh Sticks" has been reduced to a trickle.

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remove a birthmark left her severely brain damaged

Helen Edwards was just five surgery at the private Hope Nursing Home in Cambridgeshire to remove a strawberry birthmark on her forehead. But she suffered complications from the anaesthetic, which led to cardiac arrest and permanent brain

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Now 17, she was left blind and unable to crawl, feed or talk. But after years of help from her parents, Roger and Brenda, and volunteers from their village of Elmsett, near Hadleigh in Suffolk, she can see years for the family to be again and has recovered some

Daniel Brennan QC, representing the family, told Mr Justice McKinnon that the £3.9m settlement was "an enormous amount of money - the largest amount awarded against any individual doctor so far".

The previous highest award, £3,281,199 was made last month to Sam Mansell, who had been severely disabled during a Caesarean section in 1987.

tragic". She was a normal fiveyear-old who went to her local hospital to have a small birthmark removed in what should have been a minor operation. the quality of life which Helen

that Helen's parents were never prepared to accept that her future "was very bleak inwhen she underwent cosmetic deed". He said they engaged volunteers and professional help in a training programme that lasted five years.

"The result was that she became aware and responsive and happier than at any time in

Although doctors said there was no hope, her sight gradually returned and she was able to mutter the words "mum" and "more" by the age of 10. The consultant anaesthetist,

Dr Thomas Ogg, admitted liability in 1994, but it has taken awarded the amount of money needed to provide Helen's care

Mr Edwards said after the hearing: "This legal battle has taken a quarter of our lives, so we are very thankful that it is over at last."

He said they had been encouraged by experts that "Helen deserves a quality of life, not just nursing or institution

Mr Edwards said £3.9m "will Mr Brennan said Helen's seem like a lot of money to most circumstances were "truly people, but Helen must pay others to facilitate her every activity, 24 hours a day".

He added: "Every penny of the award is needed to provide



Helen before the 'routine' noitarsqo

deserves. As her parents, we as happy and fulfilling a life for

"The settlement is welcome

for the security it brings to Helen's future, but the fact is that we would rather have our daughter back as she was. rather than all the money in the world.

The family's solicitor, Sandra Patton, said the settlement was so large because Helen's disabilities were nermanent and so severe. The judge approved a payment from the settlement of £150,000 to the parents, who had sacrificed their careers to devote their time to their daughter. Mr Edwards gave up his job as a BT research technician and his wife her accountancy career

Stephen Miller QC, representing Dr Ogg, said: "I would not like it thought that this will continue to work hard to en- award will become a benchsure the money lasts to provide mark for damages of this type. This is a unique case and that is why the damages are so



Helen Edwards, now 17, who was awarded a record £3.9m settlement

THE BIG PAYOUTS

LITIGATION SOAKS up enough money to build at least four new hospitals every year and last year the NHS paid

Helen Edwards' £3.9m settlement is now the highest. The previous highest was £3,281,199 made to Sam Mansell last month. He suffers from cerebral palsy after being starved of oxygen during delivery in 1987 and requires round-the-clock attention. Other major awards have

■ Lesley Wildsmith suffered cerebral palsy at birth in 1974 because doctors failed to realise her mother was carrying twins. She is expected to be awarded up to £2m next year after the health authority admitted negligence. ■Surviving twin Warren Dyer was awarded £1.85m this

■ Christopher Firmin, 12, was awarded £2.35m against the Ministry of Defence in July after being starved of oxygen at the British Military Hospital in Hanover in 1986. He has cerebral palsy and needs 24-hour care. ■ Peter Pearse won £2,325,000 damages after the unnecessary use of forceps during his birth. Despite being confined to a wheelchair and needing constant care, he gained a degree in psychology at Nottingham University in 1993.

■ Student Catherine Roberts won a £100,000 out-offood for more than two months because they believed she was going to die after suffering a brain haemorrhage.

£235m in court settlements.

June after being starved of oxygen at birth. His brother is stilloom during the delivery in 19

court settlement after doctors allowed her to go without

Prison agrees to consider plight of baby

consider the plight of an inmate refused a place in a mother and baby unit and, in a move with far-reaching implications for women in jail, plans to review its policies and procedures in

In a climbdown at the Court of Appeal in London yesterday, the Prison Service agreed to reassess the woman's application and to give primary consideration to her baby's interests.

The 24-year-old immate, who cannot be named for legal reasons, had faced separation from her two-week-old daughter She was denied a place in the mother and baby unit at Holloway prison, north London, because of her "unpredictable" and allegedly violent behaviour.

In what became a test case on the rights of mothers to that "primary consideration" keep their children in prison, she challenged that decision through the courts, saying it was unfair and unlawful. Her lawyers have argued that the viin the special units. olent incidents in which she was alleged to have been involved were disputed, and that the original admissions board did

not call relevant witnesses. Yesterday, midway through an appeel against a refusal by the High Court to grant her judicial review, lawyers for the Prison Service offered to set up a new admissions board to reconsider

her application this week. Nicholas Adams, the woman's solicitor, visited her in hospital after the hearing and said later that she was "extremely pleased" about the development. The new board will

By Kathy Marks

be differently constituted, with a chairman from outside Holloway and representatives from two other prisons with special facilities - Styal in Cheshire and New Hall in West Yorkshire.

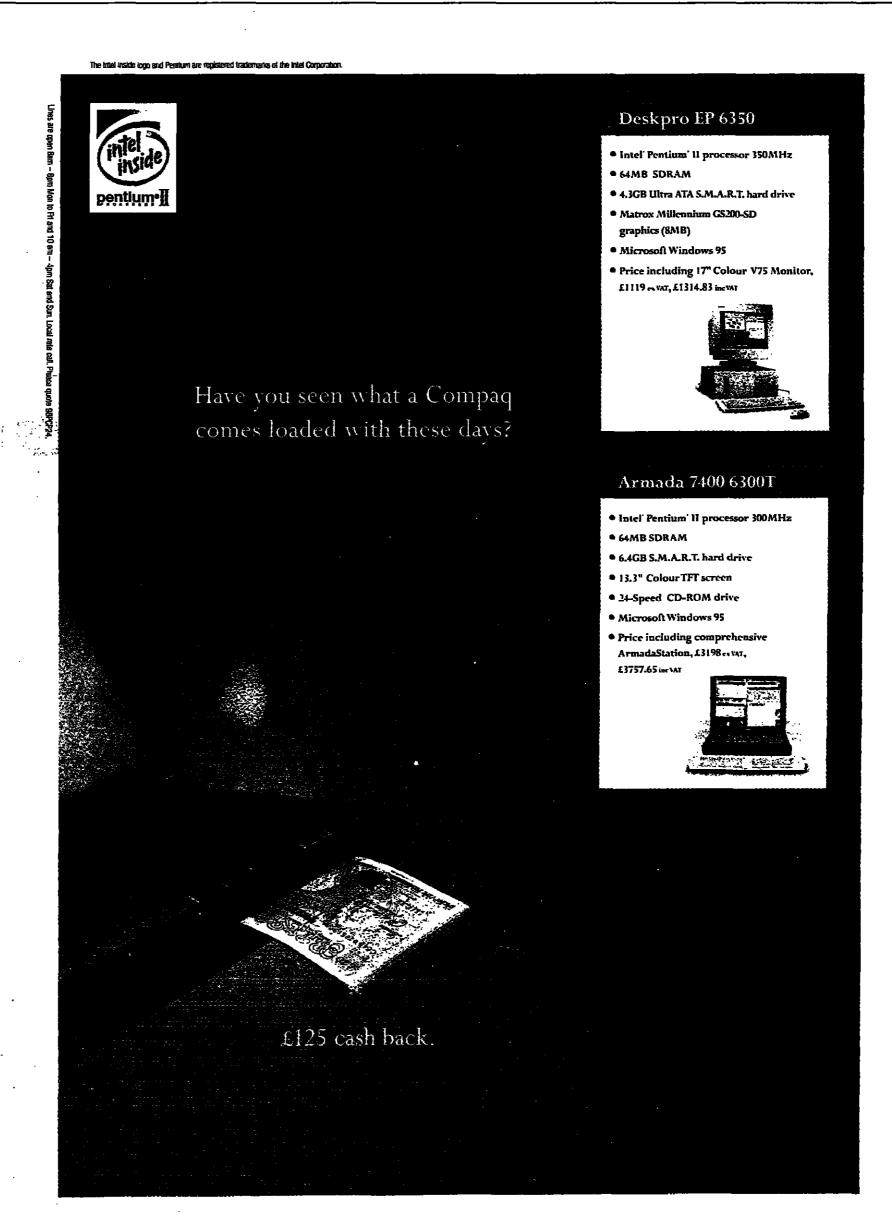
If she is not given a place at one of the units, her baby will be taken into care. But Mr Adams said that if she was relawyers would return to court.

Yesterday, after Lord Justice Brooke, sitting with Lord Justices Evans and Ward, voiced concern about the procedures followed in such cases, Kenneth Parker QC, counsel for the Prison Service, said that a review of the system was "in hand as a result of the case.

The three judges made clear should always be given to a child's welfare, although it had to be balanced against the need for "good order and discipline"

A shake-up aimed at heading off further challenges is likely to result in more women who give birth in prison being allowed to keep their children. However, there are only 68 places in units in England and Wales.

Frances Crook, director of the Howard League for Penal Reform, welcomed the outcome of yesterday's hearing. "It does not set a legal precedent, but it sets a practical precedent... The message must go to the courts: don't send pregnant women to prison because the prisons won't be able to cope,"



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Peers take issue with a most un-suitable tradition

trousers, after Earl Ferrers (no wig. and broad pinstripe suit) had urged his colleagues not to assent to the Lord Chancellor's shocking suggestion that he should be allowed to come to work in a suit.

Allowing Lord Irvine to join the rest of the peers in the 20th century, or the late 19th if he is to take step", he warned. The temporal first: had the amendment before the House been suggesting that the Lord Chancellor turn up in slashed

stand the phraseology.

But what Earl Ferrers really meant was that his dress was admirably retrograde as it was, and any attempt at forward motion should be impeded. The Lord Chancellor wasn't just another functionary, he argued, he was a constitutional mascot and his propfashion notes from some of the older er place was propped in the middle

This is a perfectly respectable arlogic of this wasn't entirely clear at gument if you have a fondness for tradition (and for some reason that escapes me, many of the hereditary peers are slavish in their devotion to

IN THE House of Lords they were doublet and silver filigree codpiece, the principle). What's more it can be debating the issue of Derry's then you could perhaps underneatly turned against Lord Irvine himself. If the Lord Chancellor was "so punctilious" about the historical authenticity of his own apartments, Earl Ferrers pointed out, surely he should be equally respectful of sartorial traditions in the House of Lords? I left the debate as Lord Lester was trying to establish whether the Lord Chancellor's kneebritches and wig represented a "digmembers, would be a "retrograde of the Upper Chamber's dashboard nifled" or an "efficient" element of the constitution, an allusion to Walter Bagehot's famous distinction between the bits that dazzle and the

bits that actually do something.

In the Commons, the Prime Min-



SUTCLIFFE

ister was making a statement about Iraq and I couldn't help but carry the question over from one chamber to

nified" or "efficient"? They cer- yesterday there was a sense that the tainly have their own solemnity when the matter in question is the last-minute averting of military action. But they are also important for the House's notion of its own dignity

- the increasingly doubt-nibbled idea that it plays a supreme role in

the government of the nation. MPs like to have the Prime Minister come to the despatch box to tell them what's been going on, even if his presence there is largely ceremonial, because it bolsters their sense of themselves as an invigilating body. And, once he's actually decided to turn up, Mr Blair is good the other. Are such occasions "dig- at ministering to their vanities. But

formal courtesies had a larger purpose; Mr Blair wanted to send a message about British unanimity of purpose, and he got his way.

There were some wistful ques-

tions from Tory members, provoked by American hints that they wished to "bolster the opposition" in Iraq, a phrase that clearly conjures fantasies of snipers drawing Saddam moustaches on watermelons in preparation for a bit of firing practice. But the only real opposition Mr Blair faced came from behind him, from where Tony Bean invited him to admit that there was no possibility of getting the UN

took this in his stride, but it seemed to rattle Gerald Kaufman, who rose a few minutes later to stutter out a denunciation of those who had visited Iraq to "get their skins tanned and their noses brown".

I don't think this sally was aimed at Mr Benn, who is impeccably pallid, but at George Galloway, a man with the burnished lustre of a television travel journalist and very little time for the threat of force. I don't know whether he's recently visited Baghdad, but if not, he has been doing intensive research work in preparation for the Solarium and Sunbed Operators Regulation Bill.

Lib-Lab deal 'will not go any further'

the Liberal Democrats last night he would not edge the party any closer to Labour before the next general election.

In an attempt to reassure his critics, Mr Ashdown said he saw his decision to extend the remit of the cabinet committee that includes senior Lib Dems as "the last step" of his strategy of "constructive opposition" before the next election.

Mr Ashdown's pledge came in a briefing note to MPs and party activists ahead of a tricky meeting of its federal executive last night. He also ruled out a Lib-Lab coalition before the election as "inconceivable".

His "thus far, no further" statement contrasted with Tony Blair's comment that there were "no limits" to cooperation after the two leaders extended the cabinet committee's work from constitutional reform to other policy issues.

But Mr Ashdown's internal problems were compounded yesterday when Jack Cunningham, the Cabinet's "enforcer", cast doubt on his claim that Mr "vast swathes of social policy".

BY ANDREW GRICE Political Editor

on proportional representation before the next election. "I am not sure why he sounds more confident on that," Dr Cunningham told BBC Radio. "That has not been decided."

Cabinet sources said that while Mr Blair had not ruled out an early referendum, he would call one only if he believed he could persuade the public to back electoral reform. The betting in the Cabinet is that it will not take place before the election.

Writing in today's Independent, Mr Ashdown insists that voting reform has now been given a "fighting chance" by the Prime Minister. Defending further co-operation with Labour, he says the Lib Dems now have a great opportunity to give the case for reform momentum "by practising the kind

of politics we preach". Mr Ashdown insists he has not signed up to supporting Blair would hold a referendum Instead, his party would try to

negotiate limited, formal and tightly controlled areas in which it could work with the

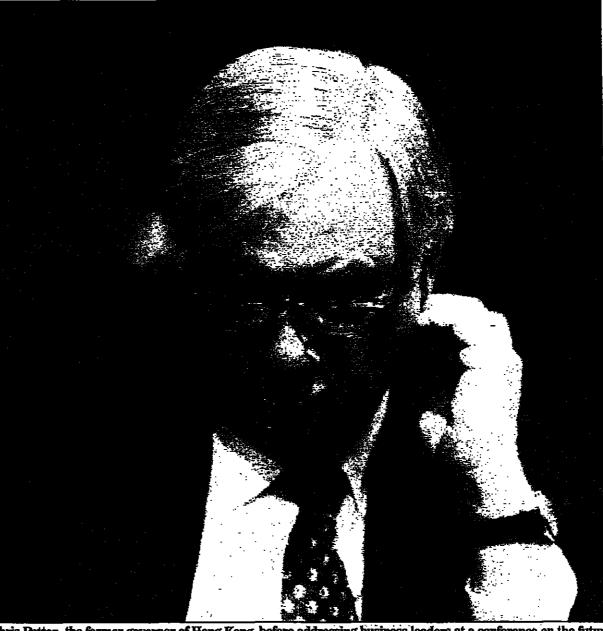
He told last night's meeting of the Lib Dem executive: "This is not about pulling our punches. We will oppose vigorously where we disagree with the Government"

But Mr Ashdown faced criticism over his failure to consult his party before announcing the new Lib-Lab deal last week.

Ruth Berry, a member of the executive, said: "This may be a step too far. There will be a lot of people who are very upset and very angry, particularly about the way it happened." Although it was right to stay

in the cabinet committee, she added: "I am concerned about widening into other areas such as health, education and welfare, where we have very different policies from the Labour Party." Keith Kerr, another member

of the executive, said: "I am terribly concerned for the long term future of this party and where it is leading to."



Paddy Ashdown,
Review, page 4

Chris Patten, the former governor of Hong Kong, before addressing business leaders at a conference on the future for the Asian Pacific countries held at Centre Point in central London yesterday

Mark Chilvers

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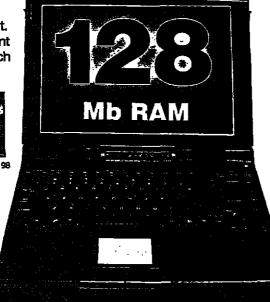
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ALASTAIR CAMPBELL, the SPIN DOCTORS' PAY Prime Minister's press secretary, is to receive a 2 per cent rise to £91,014 a year as part of the annual uprating of pay for spin doctors across Whitehall. Jonathan Powell, the Prime Minister's chief of staff, will get

V-OUT

the same amount from 1 December. Keith Hellawell, the former chief constable who became "drugs tsar", is the highestpaid Whitehall adviser, and will earn £106,057 a year

Mr Campbell joked about his pay rise. "I don't know how much I get paid. I hand it over to Fiona

(Millar, his partner)." The Cabinet Office sought to play down the size of the awards to other spin doctors in ministerial offices, insisting that they were in line with the 2.5 per cent inflation target, which the Chancellor has urged the public-sector pay review bodies to meet in the winter

But restructuring of the pay

BY COLIN BROWN

Chief Political Correspondent scales for the spin doctors shows that ministerial special advisers earning £24,349 a year will see their pay rise by 6.7 per cent and 3.5 per cent for those earning more than £73,484 a

That raised the prospects of inflation-busting pay rises for been brought in for these doctors and nurses from next

The Treasury is anticipating that the nurses will be award- ing them three salary bands ed more than 5 per cent extra in the new year, which will be paid in full, without staging, and officials expect the doctors to get a similar rise.

and doctors less than the spindoctors," said one senior Whitehall source.

Mr Campbell, a former tabloid journalist, and Mr Powell, a former diplomat, received pay rises of 2 per cent in April

servants", Jack Cunningham. the Minister for the Cabinet Office, said.

Their salaries are above the standard salary structure for special advisers, ministers' assistants who are appointed from outside the traditional Civil Service and are allowed to be politically partial in dispensing their advice.

A new salary structure has Whitehall bag-carriers - who can expect to lose their jobs when their ministers do - giv-

ranging from £26,000 to £76,056. The average pay for the 70 special advisers in Whitehall is £45,378, Mr Cunningham added. This compared with an "They can't give the nurses average of £46,421 under the previous government, but the average has been lowered because the number of special ad-

visers has increased. The total pay bill for special advisers is expected to be £3.6m during the 1998-99 financial "in line with other senior civil year, Mr Cunningham said.

THE HOUSE



PR goes back

JACK STRAW, the Home Secretary moved yesterday to overturn the Government's third defeat by peers over "the closedlist" system of proportional representation to be introduced under the European Parliamentary Elections Bill. In a "constitutional ping-pong", the Bill will go back to the Lords today.

Reform lashed THE GOVERNMENT'S welfare reform programme was branded a "directionless shambles" by Tories yesterday after Alastair Darling, Social Security Secretary, said during question time that

the Working Families Tax Credit was costing taxpayers £1.5bn more each year **Today's Business** Commons:

2.30pm Questions on Environment, the Regions

and Transport. Debate on Modernisation of Commons Select Committee report on scrutiny of European

■ Debate on appointment of new Parliamentary Commissioner for

QUESTIONS ANDANSWERS

Bridge toll rises

TOLL CHARGES for cars using the Severn Bridges are to rise from £4 to £4.20 from 1 January next year, Glenda Jackson, the Transport minister, said.

'Green' report

ENVIRONMENTAL costs and benefits are to be included in cabinet papers and ministers responsible for "green" initiatives will have to report regularly and produce an annual report detailing progress made, John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister. announced.

Jet-ski curbs

THERE WILL be tougher laws to control jet-skis, including more power for local authorities to create exclusive bathing zones, Glenda Jackson promised in a written reply.

Irvine to swap his ceremonial robes for 'comfortable' attire

THE LORD Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, succeeded yesterday in his wish to abandon his 17th-century ceremonial costume of tights, breeches, buckled shoes and wig in favour it as "another example of the of more comfortable clothes.

In a modest move towards the modernisation of the Lords, rograde step". peers decided by 145 to 115 in a free vote to allow him to wear plain black trousers and shoes except on ceremonial occasions.

Lord Irvine said that he wearing the traditional cosand report stages of Bills. "The is very uncomfortable," he said.

lively debate, Earl Ferrers, for-

By Sarah Schaefer Political Reporter

leader of the Lords, dismissed Government salami-slicing away at tradition" and a "ret-"The office of Lord Chan-

cellor is one of the highest in the land, and the ceremonial which goes with that office and the uniform that attaches to that offaced 13 or 14 hours at a time fice is very important. In my view any attempt to dress down tume during the second reading is wrong, nor do I think it is incumbent on whoever happens wig weighs an absolute ton. It to be the holder at any time of this prestigious office to say, I However, speaking during a don't really like this uniform'." He said one could imagine mer Conservative deputy Guardsmen suggesting they

bearskins" because they were out of date. Uniforms were a symbol of what has gone before and on which the present is built", he added.

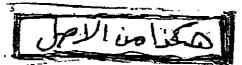
Referring to the controver-

sial £60,000 refurbishment of Lord Irvine's official apartments at Westminster, Lord Ferrers said: "It would seem curious, for one who is so punctilious that his apartment have to wear," he added. correctly reflects history that the same critical analysis should not apply to the Lord Chancellor's dress as well."

Defending the Lord Chancellor's request, Lord Strabolgi, a Labour peer, said times had moved on and reminded peers that Lords used to wear frock coats and top hats at

the beginning of the century. Lord Lester of Herne Hill, a Liberal Democrat peer, said the Lord Chancellor's dress made a "mockery" of the significance of his office. "As a barrister of 35 years' standing. I wish that the Lord Chancellor will liberate me and my colleagues from the outmoded uncomfortable, unhygienic and unhealthy wigs we presently

Peers also approved for the Lord Chancellor to be able to speak from the Government front bench in his role as a minister without his wig and gown as he already does on committee stages of government Bills. He will continue to sit on the Woolsack for question time or the formal stages of Bills.



Ten twinting

radition Hyde Park bomb conviction 'flawed'

BY JASON BENNETTO Crime Correspondent

A MAN jailed for the IRA Hyde Park bombing in which four soldiers died in 1982 was wrongly convicted on misleading fingerprint evidence, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Counsel for Danny Mc-Namee, 38, argued that a convicted IRA terrorist was the likely source of many of the prints found on bomb-making equipment. They said that Mc-Namee had served 11 years of a 25-year sentence for a crime he did not commit

He was jailed in 1987 for conspiracy to cause explosions. which included the car bomb that killed four soldiers and seven horses of the Household Cavalry and seriously injured 17

Michael Mansfield QC, counsel for McNamee, said that a false picture had been presented of his client at his trial as a "master bomb-maker".

Earlier this month, Mc-Namee became the first person convicted of a terrorist offence in England to be freed early under the Good Friday Agreement when he was released from the Maze Prison in North-ern Ireland. His case was the first to be referred to the Court of Apeal by the newly formed Criminal Cases Review Commission, set up to examine po-

tential miscarriages of justice.

Reform laste:



Hyde Park carnage after the 1982 bomb Ley Charlie

yesterday that fresh evidence concerning a convicted bomb maker, Desmond Ellis, was now available, which substantially undermined the prosecution case against McNamee and supported his defence.

He said that Ellis was the source of a "significant proportion" of the fingerprints found on devices with "explosive significance in the case against the appellant".

McNamee's conviction turned on the discovery of his fingerprints on tape found in two IRA arms dumps and on a battery that survived the explosion in Hyde Park. But Mr Mansfield argued

that his client's work at an electronics factory where he would have been handling tape

tained similar batteries offers

an innocent and more likely ex-

planation for how his prints came to be found. During the appeal, expert evidence will also be used to argue the fingerprint recovered from the battery cannot be

shown to be that of McNamee.

Counsel said it was also the prosecution's case that Mc-Namee had manufactured the Hyde Park bomb. This submission was based on the similarity between the "art work" on the recovered fragments of the circuit board from the receiver used in the Hyde Park bomb and that on part of the receiver recovered from an IRA arms dump.

But Mr Mansfield revealed

cal "art work" had been found

in the possession of Ellis in 1981. Mr Mansfield said the nondisclosure of the Eilis information to the defence was a

"serious irregularity". McNamee, 38, listened intently in the packed London courtroom yesterday as Mr Mansfield launched an attempt to clear his name at the start of a hearing expected to last about two weeks

Earlier Mr Mansfield argued that the prosecution at the trial of McNamee painted a false picture of him as the 'master bomb-maker".

"We say it was known to be a false picture by the prosecuting authorities at the time."

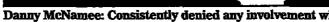
Counsel said the "basis of this appeal is that the picture painted by the Crown during the trial was a false picture".

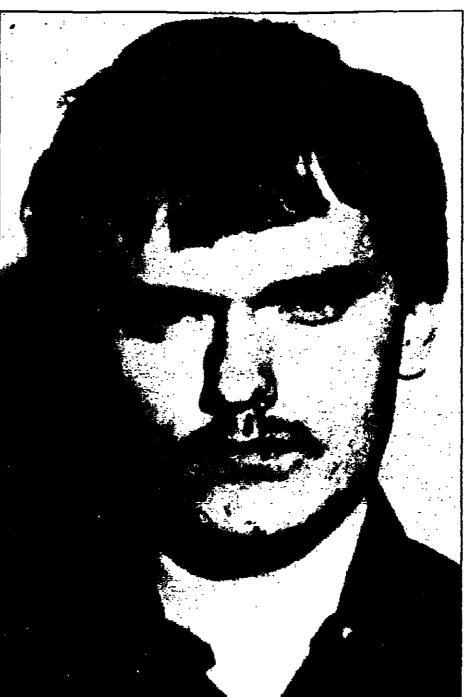
McNamee, from Crossmaglen, South Armagh, has eight grounds of appeal before the court Mr Mansfield said the prosecution case against Mc-Namee was "deeply flawed

There has been a longrunning campaign to clear Mc-Namee, who has consistently denied any involvement with the IRA. Unusually, the IRA has is-

from the beginning".

sued a statement denying Mc-Namee was a member of its terrorist organisation.





Danny McNamee: Consistently denied any involvement with the IRA

costs director £60,000

Racism

Home Affairs Correspondent

A FORMER local authority bousing director who subjected a senior black colleague to a campaign of "grossly offensive" racial discrimination was ordered yesterday to pay him

nearly £60,000 in compensation. Bernard Crofton, former director of housing in Hackney, east London, accused Sam Yeboah, the council's former head of personnel, of placing "his crooks" in council jobs.

Mr Crofton, brought in by the council to investigate housing fraud, developed what an industrial tribunal described as "a fixed mental impression that Africans, particularly West Africans, have a propensity to

When the tribunal upheld Mr Yeboah's claims of persistent racial harassment, the council agreed to pay him £380,000 in compensation.

Yesterday, the tribunal ordered Mr Crofton to pay damages of £45,000 with £14,000 interest for those issues on which it was found he alone was responsible. The highest previous award made in similar circumstances was £1,000.

In its 300-page judgment. the tribunal said that one of the striking features of the case was "the number and persistence of false allegations"

At a meeting in September 1994, Mr Crofton told Hackney's chief executive that Mr Yeboah should be made to apologise to the council because "[He] had put his crooks into jobs".

Mr Crofton continued his onslaught during the tribunal hearings when he crossexamined Mr Yeboah, making prompted "a torrent of apoloa series of allegations which the tribunal said were "demonstrably false".

The tribunal concluded that Mr Crofton's behaviour was grossly offensive. It said it caused Mr Yeboah great distress and damaged his reputation.

Mr Yeboah, who is now unemployed, said of the decision: "I hope that it will send a clear message to people who disers on racial grounds that there i may be a serious price to pay."

Sex returns to agenda as bishops urged to back celibacy

SEX, OR the lack of it, is back BY CLARE GARNER on the Church of England's agenda this week as bishops meeting in Westminster prepare to debate the merits of

Horace Harper, a prebendary of Lichfield, Staffordshire, is calling upon the General Synod to support single people who have chosen to remain celibate Party leader, who lived with his because of their religious beliefs.

ing in lifelong celibacy, and honour their vocation".

The debate on celibacy outside marriage comes just a day after William Hague gave his own view that living with someone outside wedlock was not a sin. The Conservative wife. Ffion, before their mar-

be married, who are going to be married, who are so clearly committed to each other...

"What churches have really been arguing against, or what I see Christianity being opposed to, is promiscuity and people entering into intimate relationships with no intention of carrying them on."

Others believe that celibacy

"That's not how I would un- Conference this summer. derstand Christian living. If other people perceive it to be within their Christian liberty I would not want to trace my conscience over theirs, but I

wouldn't agree with them." Mr Harper hopes that tomorrow's Synod debate will not be dominated by the question of whether gay clergy s Synod to celebrate those not going against what Christ to sex within marriage. Asked ject which dominated the cy is not a mandatory obligation gays and the sanctioning of has already pre-judged the fulfil their Christian call-tians believe, particularly when about sex before marriage, Mr worldwide gathering of Angli-on any member. We don't have same-sex blessings, had process?"

it's people who are engaged to Harper, who is celibate, said: can bishops at the Lambeth a celibate tradition in our cler-However, the Rev Richard Kirker, general secretary of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, believes that the church cannot possibly discuss celibacy without reference to

homosexuals. "In any discussion about dition it must be remembered

gy or laity other than among those who choose. The way celibacy is used at the moment - and most often invoked - is as a way of controlling the sex lives of gay clergy."

Mr Kirker expects that this week's meeting of bishops will be "a rather chastened" affair. celibacy within the Anglican tra- The conservative resolution, which ruled out the possibility

gies" in the aftermath of Lambeth, he said. This autumn the Archbish-

op of Canterbury, Dr George Carey agreed for the first time to meet lesbian and gay Christians regularly. Mr Kirker is encouraged by

Dr Carey's willingness to listen, but added: "Many people ask me, 'What's the point of us at-

TRAI Hurricane Appeal

Hurricane Mitch has killed over 15,000 people. In its wake it has left death. desolation and ruin. Over 10,000 are missing and more than 3 million homeless. Already the survivors are working to re-build their lives, but they now face the threat of disease and hunger.

The Disasters Emergency Committee, an alliance of leading UK aid agencies working with local partners in Central America, is already responding to the disaster and urgently needs more money to provide food, clean water, shelter and medicines. Please help by making a donation now.

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Employment rights: Four million older workers are out of jobs, and the skills of millions more are under-used

Age prejudice 'costs Britain £26bn a year'

WORKERS WHO find them- BY GLENDA COOPER selves discriminated against because of their age may soon be able to take their grievance to industrial tribunals.

As the Government launched its code of practice against age discrimination yesterday, a report by the Employers' Forum on Age claimed that the practice cost the economy £26bn a year. In eight years, it is estimated, one-quarter of the working population will be over 50 but while there are now 9.3 million people in Britain aged 50-64, 3.7 million of them are not working.

The draft code, which businesses will be asked to follow from next year, covers recruitment, retirement and promotion, and urges employers to treat staff according to ability. not age. The Employment minister, Andrew Smith, said he would consult the heads of industrial tribunals over the possibility of age-related cases

But charities for older people said that the new code of practice was "unimpressive" and signalled a retreat by the Government from legislation.

Mr Smith said legislation had not been ruled out but he

Social Affairs Correspondent

warned that it would be complicated. Other countries, such as the United States, New Zealand and France, had run into problems.

"The code is a big step forward in tackling age discrimi-nation because it will establish new standards," he said. "Customers and workers will have a basis to complain to a company and to the wider forum of public opinion. The more widely the code is accepted, the more appropriate it will be for industrial tribunals to take account of it."

The new code urges companies not to use age limits or phrases such as "young graduates" in job advertisements, to use interviewing panels of mixed age and to promote staff on merit, irrespective of age.

The charity Age Concern welcomed the code as an important first step, but added that only legislation would get rid of need strong support from the ageism. "With a recession predicted next year, even more older people will be in fear of losing their jobs and never working again. These people need to cies reflect the code."

know that the law is on their side," Age Concern's directorgeneral, Sally Greengross, said. Mervyn Kohler, head of public affairs at Help the Aged, said the move would contribute to consultation as it was "the only show in town. But we have real

to tackle discrimination." Debra Allcock, of the Industrial Society, said that voluntary codes usually worked better than legislation in the long run because people were more likely to respond well to them. But, she added: "What legislation can do is get people thinking about the issue, as was the case over equal opportunities." She said the priority for the

worries about the code and feel

it is a very unimpressive start."

he said. "We need proper laws

Government should be to push education to make people aware that ageism was unacceptable. Helen Garner, campaigns Forum on Age, said the code

was a start. "But I think it will Government to work," she said. "They need to put funds into monitoring it and making sure all their departments and poli-



Redundant computer designer Tony Webster, 59, cannot find a job because of his age and now stacks shelves in the Budgen supermarket in Buckingham

Director left on shelf to stack shelves

AS A computer sales director By GLENDA COOPER salary of £40,000 a year. Now he earns just £7,000 as a shelfstacker for his local super-

For more than 30 years Mr Webster, 59, worked in computers - designing hardware and software as well as working in sales - but his age means that since he was made redundant from his last job he has not been able to get full-time employment in this field.

He took his last employer to an industrial tribunal and won an out-of-court settlement for wrongful dismissal and breach of contract. He is convinced that ageism lay behind the loss of his

"The company I worked for was run by a 29-year-old. He said to me that he was worried that the average age of the company was creeping up. I was far older than anyone else, most of the rest were under 30." Mr Webster said.

"Soon afterwards I was given the sack."

He feels this is not an isolated incident. Two years ago Mr Webster sent out 40 letters applying for jobs without mentioning his age. He received 29 replies and was invited to 12 interviews. When he mentioned his age on application letters, he never got a reply.

a lot of knowledge," he said.
"The attitude is often that managers are worried by your age down on the sheet instead of looking at your ability.

"While I defend the right of employers to employ who they like, I feel angry about being ignored purely because of my

To support himself, Mr Webster got a job at a Budgen supermarket, where he is paid £3.83 an hour to stack shelves. "Though I like what I'm doing at the moment I would love to go back to computers." he said.

"I can see that employers would be worried about the health aspect of employing older workers, but I'm doing a hard physical job at the supermarket. I've lost a stone and a half, so I can do anything. I've proved I've got stamina.

Mr Webster is also doing some Web design part-time and has continued to write poetry and short stories, some of which have been published. He feels he still has a lot to give to

"Older people often have a lot of loyalty and a lot of reliability," he said. "They have the ability to interact with other employers into seeing the benefit of older employees - they



The c by Ly will d down soften alw ch

Europe's biggest woodpecker is heading for Britain

tacular woodland birds, the black woodpecker, is heading to-

As big as a crow and twice the size of its nearest British relative, the great spotted woodof Central European forests, but sex and one expert is predict-

ONE OF Europe's most spec- By Brian Unwin

wards for the past 50 years. Some of them are now nesting so close to France's Channel coast that the nearest pairs are pecker, it is traditionally a bird just 100 miles from Kent and Sus-

appearance in England.

In the latest edition of Birding World, published by the Bird Information Service, Gerard Gorman writes: "I personally find it hard to believe that the species has so far never managed to reach Britain.

ing they will soon make their first Black woodpeckers are purposeful, strong flyers which often travel several miles crosscountry between nesting, roost-

ing and foraging sites. "Quite large bodies of water present no problem for dispersing black woodpeckers and clearly the waters separating

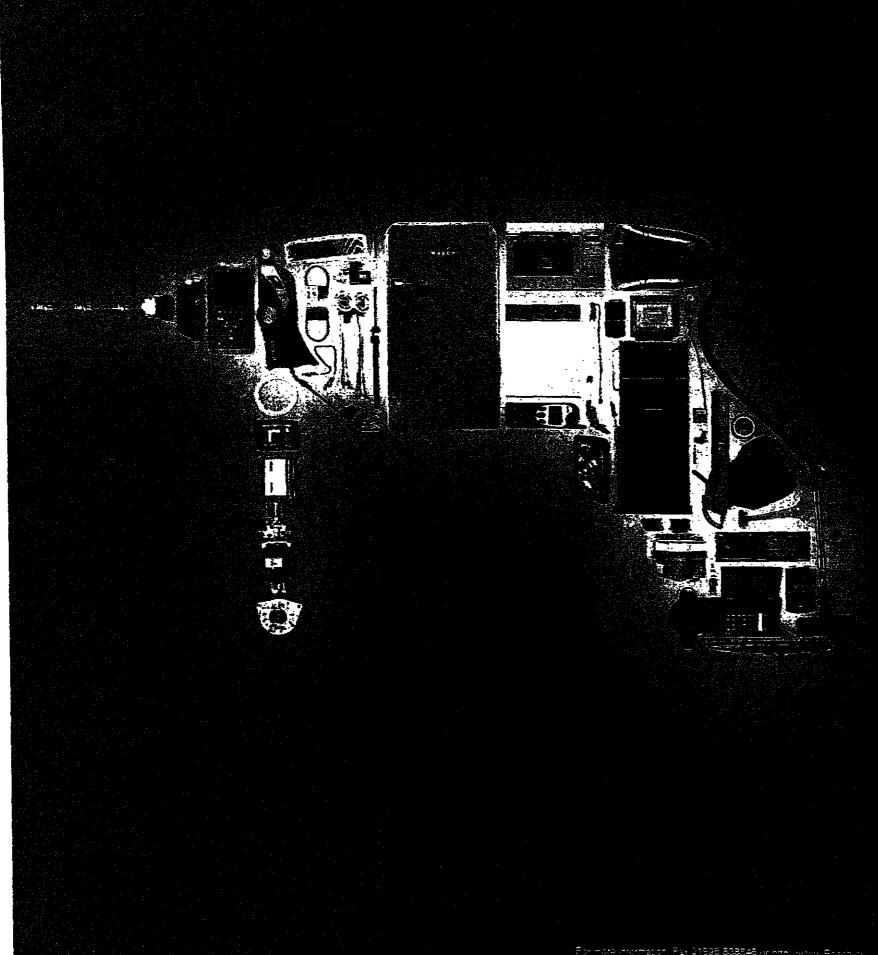
Britain from mainland Europe Europe – they particularly like are narrow enough for pioneering birds to cross."

The birds are striking in appearance, jet black except for an ivory-coloured bill and a scarlet crown. Their population expansion is linked to deciduous woodlands maturing across

tall stands of beech trees and also the growth of Norway spruce plantations.

Mr Gorman says Britain has a lot of habitat that would suit them and their eventual occurrence here "is not only possible but seems inevitable.

and, given the dynamic nature of the species' expansion on the near continent and the relait may not be unreasonable to believe that several birds could make the short trip across the sea in the coming years."



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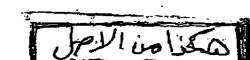
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re and the transfer

Schools: Heads angry at minister's words

Schools: Heads angry at Include Don't expel pupils for having drugs'

PUPILS FOUND with drugs at school should not automatical Education Editor ly be expelled, Estelle Morris, the School Standards minister,

Miss Morris told the annual conference of the Girls' Schools Association that pupils who sold drugs at school should be expelled but drug education within school should be an option for those "simply found with cannabis in their pockets".

She was speaking before a government announcement tohow schools should deal with drug-taking pupils. Her speech at the Glasgow conference came weeks after two primaryschool children turned up at school with heroin.

Heads accused her of undermining their ability to send strong anti-drug messages to pupils. Ministers have asked local authorities to set targets

Miss Morris said: "Many schools have had a policy of automatically excluding pupils for any incidents to do with drugs. I understand why this is clear message that drugs are wrong. We are saying schools need to make a judgement

There are those who think it is about welfare. Neither of these extremes is acceptable or re-lated to the real world."

Miss Morris said there was no question of taking away a head's right to exclude pupils guilty of serious drugs offences and she fully understood the pressure from parents to expel those who took drugs.

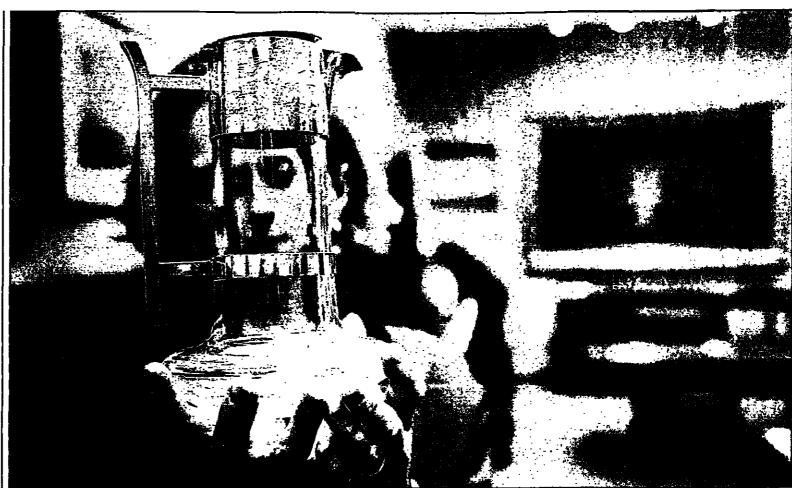
John Dunford, general sec-retary of the Secondary Heads' Association, said: "Any kind of pressure on heads in this direction is unwelcome. There is a need to give a very strong message to children. It is difficult enough to keep schools out of the drugs scene." He feared heads would be caught between pressure from parents to exclude children found with drugs and pressure from local for the reduction of exclusions. authorities anxious to meet the Government's targets for re-

As a former head of a large secondary school, he had both excluded pupils found with the case, because it gives a drugs and accepted pupils expelled from other schools for similar offences.

Miss Morris also pledged about the disciplinary action extra money for the battle they take. They need to have a against drugs. The Governrange of options. There are ment would provide £22.5m those who'd think that when over three years to fight drugs

standards, she said. "The Government has standards at the centre of its agenda for educaple whose lives are blighted by drugs will find it impossible to reach their full potential."

Jackie Anderson, president of the Girls' Schools Association, said all schools had to recognise the "drug culture is part of our society ... all children, sometimes from a disturbingly young age, are vulnerable to the transitory



thrill of drugs, which are as an annumeric Stapleton, a director of the Fine Art Society, inspecting a claret jug designed by Christopher Dresser in about 1870. It features available ... as chewing-gum." in 'Style: Art & Design', an exhibition in New Bond Street, central London, which opens today and runs until 11 December Tom Craig

you have a drug-related of- in schools. The drug menace fence it is about punishment. threatened the Government's Single parents can be 'ideal' too, says head

SINGLE PARENTS are just as By JUDITH JUDD capable as traditional families of bringing up children, a head-

of the Girls' Schools Association of girls' independent schools, said the emphasis on family values in the recent Green Paper was not always possible in re-ality. She challenged "the idealisation of family life".

make

Mrs Anderson, head of King's High School, Warwick, told the association's annual conference in Glasgow that Elizabeth I, Cherie Blair, and Jane Austen's brother were examples of well-adjusted people who were brought up outside conventional families.

Two months ago, Dr Patrick Tobin, chair of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference of public schools, argued that divorce was the biggest single cause of serious disciplinary problems in independent schools.

Mrs Anderson who has been married for 35 years and has two adult children, said: There are plenty of happy, well-adjusted people around who did not have the conventional two-parent families.

-Elizabeth I was a highly successful leader whose home life offered a series of role models who taught her to avoid following in their footsteps. Or more seriously, families such as Jane Austen's, where her broth- to support each other.

er was happily nurtured by her mistress said yesterday.

Jackie Anderson, president advantage of all concerned. aunt and uncle to the apparent

"Like Cherie Blair, I owe much to my grandmother. Cherie was looked after by her father's mother by the age of six weeks and she says her grandmother taught her how important it was to remember." Mrs Blair's father, the actor Tony Booth, left his wife and two daughters, who were brought up by their mother - who went out to work - and their grandmother. However, Mrs Ander son warned that parents need to be generous during divorce to limit the damage done to their children. Fathers could keep in touch by telephone, by post, by e-mail and by taking an interest in their child's school.

Asked about girls' reaction to divorce, she said they became subdued, lacked concentration and were very sad when their parents separated.

A daughter might feel aban-doned if her father left home, or she might idealise him so he became a "fantasy father".

She added: "He becomes the perfect parent, unlike the poor parent living with the child 24 hours a day."

Boys were more likely to go off the rails during a divorce be-cause they lacked the "culture of talking", which helped girls

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Sleeper train hit vans left on track

NEARLY 100 passengers had a BY NICK MEO lucky escape yesterday when a sleeper train ploughed into two incident - but the 33-year-old stolen vans that had been abandoned on the line.

The London Euston-Inverness train smashed into the vehicles at Slateford junction, Edinburgh, at 4am. Police said none of the 95 passengers was injured - some slept through the

driver was treated for shock. Detective Sergeant John

McBride, from British Transport Police, said: "If it turns out to be vandalism it was the worst kind of mindless vandalism and could have had catastrophic effects." Fortunately the train had been travelling at

only 30mph at the time. Dozens of firefighters and Railtrack crew worked into the morning to clear the wreckage. A Railtrack spokesman said one of the vans had become

lodged under the locomotive. The owner of a van hire firm next to the site of the collision said the vans had been stolen



*1014 million shared-file and client/server mailboxes worldwide; 25.1 million Lotus Notes Mail, 13.8 million Lotus cc:Mail. Source: EMMS June 1998. © 1998 Lotus Development Corporation. Lotus is a registered

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Tonight's meteor storm will reach 160,000mph

Technology Editor

BRITONS HOPING to watch a dazzling meteor storm expected to reach a 33-year peak tonight may find that the best vantage point is in front of a computer.

Satellite operators are holding their breath to see whether the meteors, many just tiny dust fragments, will damage any of the 500-odd satellites orbiting the Earth. The crew members of the Mir space station are also taking precautions against any impact

Forecasters are predicting cloudy weather for half the country tonight, when the bright trails of the Leonid meteors - caused each year since the 10th century by the Earth passing through the dust left over from the trail of Comet Temple-Tuttle – would be visible. And while the West html and: Country, west Wales and western Scotland are predicted to have clearer skies, the point in from 2pm today. the sky from which the meteors appear to come (known as also have coverage, at: the horizon until 11pm. The from an aircraft that is flying rupting telephone, radio or TV a "shooting star".

The Radiant is the point in the sky where the meteors appear to be coming from. It does not rise above the eastern horizon in the common metabolish. LOOK FOR THE LEONID until almost midnigh Before that you ma METEORS

over Japan, trying to estimate

actually enters the atmos-

phere during such a storm.

trollers on the ground will

also be watching for any effect on the valuable equipment

orbiting the planet. Though

the European Space Agency

estimates that the chance of any satellite being hit is less

than 0.1 per cent, the meteors

are travelling so fast - rough-

ly 160,000mph - that they could

hole a satellite, potentially dis-

Teams of satellite con-

forecast is that the most intense period of the shower how much meteor material will be between 2pm and 10pm

Observatories in Japan are planning "Webcasts" of the display. They will be on the Internet at the Web sites: ■ http://leonids.net/live/index.

■ http://www.niftyne.jp/forum /fspace/special/livecam_e.htm The US space agency Nasa will

the "radiant") will not be above http://leonid.arc.nasa.gov

those at risk. "Operators are taking dam-

age limitation measures," said a spokeswoman for the British National Space Centre yesterday. "They are switching off high-voltage systems and putting ground controllers on alert." During the storm the Hubble Space Telescope's delicate mirror will be turned away from the particles, while the three cosmonauts on Mir are ready to go into the Soyuz pod if the shower threatens the space

stars appeared at a peak rate of 150,000 per hour. But the risk to satellites then was minimal because so few were aloft. Now, with more than 500, the risks are greater. The particles can create an electric discharge that wrecks the delicate electronics on a communications satellite.

Most of the particles, though, simply burn up as the hit the Earth's atmosphere, turning white-hot - to give what ground observers see as



Shooting stars similar to the ones which are expected today

Pekka Parviainen/Science Photo Laboratory

FIAPPY Of your customers: List, put them TOP OF YOURS.





Hostage taker got new gun licence

yesterday into why a man who to shoot two people and kill a

police dog. Willmott, Mr Justice Scott- for the prosecution, said. Baker said the fact that Northamptonshire police certificate in 1995 was "a mat-

ter of considerable disquiet". During a violent rampage. Willmott, a self-employed builder from Irthlingborough, shot his girlfriend twice, wounded a police dog handler and killed the officer's dog.

He was sentenced yesterday admitting two counts of wounding with intent, possessing a firearm with intent to endanger life, destroying a police dog and aggravated burglary.

The court was told of an evening of violence that began with Willmott and his then girlfriend, Susan Sturgess, playing a game of pub skittles in which, he said, she had sought to "humiliate" him. Willmott later went to Ms

ened her and her daughter with a knife before they escaped to the home of a policeman who lived nearby. Police called to the scene saw Willmott driving away, but

he doubled back to break into

the Sturgess house armed with

Sturgess's home and threat-

took a hostage at gunpoint in his .22 rifle, 116 rounds of am-1986 was given another munition, a silencer and a telefirearms licence, allowing him scopic lens. "The women screamed ... banging on the window to attract the attention of the two police officers still in tences on 33-year-old Adam the street." Michael Stokes QC,

When they approached the house, Willmott shot Constable granted him another firearms Ian Churms in the leg before walking over to him and saying: "Oh, I didn't kneecap you then?" He then killed the officer's German shepherd dog with a single shot in the neck, before shooting Ms Sturgess in the shoulder and left thigh.

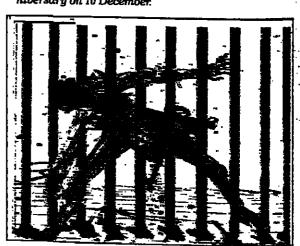
The court was told that Ms Sturgess escaped to the house at Oxford Crown Court after of Constable Ian Harris, who said he felt "petrified and helpless" as he heard Willmott battering down his kitchen door. But after a fight, the officer, a judo instructor, managed to disarm him.

Mr Justice Scott-Baker ordered a formal verdict of "not guilty" to be returned on a charge of attempting to murder Ms Sturgess. He told Willmott: "It is clear that you are ... unstable and potentially very dangerous. You should never have been trusted to possess a lethal weapon." He recommended that Willmott serve six years before being considered for parole.

Anne Rafferty, for the defence, said Willmott, a diabetic. blamed a wrong prescription of insulin for his behaviour.

THE RIGHTS OF EVERY MAN

'The Independent' is publishing daily each of the 30 Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, illustrated by Ralph Steadman, to mark its 50th anniversary on 10 December.



Article 10

Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.

A pamphlet edition of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is published by Waterstone's, price £1. Proceeds to the Medical Foundation for the Care of Victims of Torture.

ONdigital undone by box shortage

JE LAUNCH of digital terres- By JANE ROBINS trial television has been attacked by high street retailers as a fiasco after they were left 5,000 boxes in shops throughout with a shortage of equipment.

thousands of people wanting to sign up to the new service are enough set-top boxes are on sale in the shops.

At the launch of ONdigital this weekend, there were only Radio Rentals and the box

Media Correspondent

the United Kingdom, compared They have complained that with 75,000 inquiries recorded on the ONdigital helpline

ONdigital, a joint venture mable to do so because not between Granada and Carlton, insisted that it had tens of thousands of boxes ready for the launch, but retailers such as

manufacturers Philips disput- an ONdigital spokesman that stoking up demand and then boxes in the shops by Friday. available only in about 60 per ed the figure.

Radio Rentals was reduced to offering customers vouchers to bring back to the stores when the boxes start to arrive. The company had only 500 boxes to distribute to its 488 shops. Given the shortage, it deinto one shop in High Street Kensington in London - some-

his visit to the same shop

were plenty of boxes around. Dixons also confirmed that over the weekend demand had far exceeded supply. "We sold out of boxes by midday on Saturday in our Oxford Street cided to put much of its stock store," a spokesperson said.

The delay was described by retailers as a classic managewhat undermining the claim by ment mistake by ONdigital -

failing to supply product. It Pace, another manufacturer, showed that, anecdotally, there also reflects a number of technological difficulties in the development of the boxes, which are needed to decode the new

digital channels. Philips, the only manufacturer ready with the boxes, said it was producing as many is it could during the week, but could not guarantee that it would meet its target of 20,000 cups. The ONdigital service is

is also expecting to start delivering boxes to the shops with-

ONdigital is spending £10m on its launch between now and Christmas, and is in fierce competition with BSkyB's digital satellite service. The failure to deliver set-top boxes is seen as only the first of a number of hic-

cent of homes. ONdigital says that anyone who manages to secure a set-top box only to discover they are out of range will be able to get their money back.

Key ONdigital channels and services were also absent at launch. ITV2 will not go on air until next month, one of the main movie channels is still unavailable and digital Teletext services are not yet working.

of the fact that it has nearly 10 times as many channels as ONdigital - but its customer service is also hitting obstacles. Retail store managers complained that while ONdigital customers will have to wait several weeks before their settop boxes arrive, Sky customers are experiencing similar delays in getting satellite dishes in-

'Angel of Mostar' is under attack from all sides

IS THIS the last stand for Sally BY MARCUS TANNER Becker? The website for the body she directs. Operation Angel (logo "Angels rush in where most of us fear to tread") has a self-fulfilling air now she has been shot in the leg, after rushing back to the bandit land of northern Albania on anoth-

er mission to rescue children. Ms Becker, a self-confessed __"unguided missile", blames this missile on an assassin. And it is a fact that any number of Serb militants or Albanian warlords may want to kill her.

stage

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"It's completely anarchic there," said UNHCR's London spokeswoman, Lyndall Sachs.

But, ironically, the bullet may help to save the embattled mission of a woman whose life seems to be spinning in ever more frantic circles.

The latest episode began a few weeks ago when the Angel of Mostar - so called for rescuing children from the city's besieged Muslim quarter in 1993 - flew to Albania. Her goal was to rescue refugee children stranded in Serb-ruled Kosovo, or in freezing northern Albania.

Already this year, Ms Becker's Operation Angel had been sailing into choppy waters. In July she was held by the Serbs while trying to smuggle an Alhanian family out of Kosovo and sentenced to 30 days in jail.

"I found the children sheltering beneath the rubble of their homes and attempted to evacuate them across the mountains into Albania when we were surrounded by Serb

forces," she said on her website. "By some miracle the children and their mothers made it safely across the border. I stayed behind to help one woman and we

Ms Becker also claimed she had been tortured when she was released two weeks later after going on hunger strike.

But there were also reports that it was her determination to go ahead against all advice that ended with her inadvertently leading the family into a Serbian

A month earlier, Ms Becker's trip to Albania ended in a furore after several voluntars on her expedition threatened to sue her. "It was 'Carry On up Albania'," scoffed one Balkan reporter, who followed in her wake.

Ms Becker was blamed for travelling into a region run by bandits with no provision for ensuring her team or her aid was kept safe from Albanian gangs. "There are about three murders a week," said a reporter who returned recently from

At the end of the trip, six of the 26 women said they would take legal action. "We are worried she may take other convovs to Kosovo." said Mary Banks. "Volunteers may end up mission "caused the entire aid getting killed."

With troubles and poor publicity piling up on her head, Ms Becker was back in Bajram Curri, in northern Albania, last week with a plan to evacuate

about 100 children - half to the US and half to Britain. The US side of the operation went well. But Ms Becker's difficult rela-

tions with the authorities ap-

pears to have rebounded on her. Instead of flying to Britain with the children last Friday, Ms Becker was refused visas by the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, saying she had not satisfied the criteria for bringing the chil-dren to be treated in private UK hospitals

> Ms Becker has had a troubled relationship with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees since her Bosnia days. Silvana Foa, a former UNHCR spokeswoman, once memorably said of her: "You need to do your homework, get the paperwork done and get the visas in order. We don't want every granny with a bus turning up in Bosnia."

The UNHCR was livid when Sally - no "granny" but a spikyhaired 37 - brought out 55 children from the besieged Bosnian Croat stronghold of Nova Bila, in central Bosnia.

The rescue was fine but the children were evacuated on a Bosnian Croat army helicopter, breaking the UN "no fly" zone imposed on all the combatants in the 1992-95 Bosnian war. Ms Sachs said the Becke

This deep suspicion of Ms hand, remains to be seen.



Sally Becker, the 'Angel of Mostar', has angered aid organisations and the authorities with her mercy dashes to save children Allen Roger

granting her refugee children the visas she sought. What is known is that the UNHCR did not back a medical evacuation. "We were more concerned with building the mirastructure in Kosovo to benefit a greater num-

ber of people," Ms Sachs said. That left Ms Becker marooned in northern Albania. On Whether the publicity will give operation in the area to grind a shot in the arm to Operation Angel and force Mr Straw's

Becker's methods among the A Channel 4 Witness docu-UNHCR may have influenced mentary on Sally Becker will be Mr Straw's decision to delay broadcast later this month.

Midland Bank (X)

Interest Rates

Advice of interest rate changes for personal customers from 3 December 1998

We regularly tell each of our customers what their interest rates are Fair terms are maintained for all accounts that are no longer sold. It is our policy to keep customers advised of both old and new rates.

Windfall joy on the buses

MORE THAN 2,500 Merseyside By Francesco Guerrera bus drivers were celebrating an early Christmas present last night after receiving a £20,000 windfall from the local transport

The company, which runs buses and trains in Liverpool and Merseyside, decided to return £48m to its shareholders after plans for a stock market flotation and a sale of the business collapsed earlier this year.

MTL is the biggest transport operator in the region. It runs more than two-thirds of the buses in Liverpool and is responsible for the city's underground system. It also owns Northern Spirit, the rail company that operates the trans-Pennine express linking Manchester, Leeds, York and Newcastle upon Tyne. The majority of MTL's share-

holders are drivers and conductors, who bought the company from the state-owned Merseyside Passenger Transport Authority in 1992. A large number of the 6,900-strong workforce have increased their stakes since privatisation.

MTL employees hold on average 33,000 shares, giving them a windfall of about £20,000 under the plans agreed yesterday. Most were encouraged to invest in the company by the prospect of a stock market

However, their chances of pocketing a lucrative windfall from a sale on the stock market were dashed earlier this year when the Office of Fair Trading, the competition watchdog, accused the company and

gation scared off City investors and prompted MTL to scrap the flotation plans.

Hopes of a windfall were kept alive by rumours that a significant amount of value" MTL could be taken over by one from their stakes. of the national transport giants, such as Stagecoach or Go Ahead, for about £120m.

After a flurry of speculation over the summer, MTL terminated the talks and with it the drivers' chances of a takeover bonus, amid rumours that the offers received were too low.

The company said yesterday that the £20,000 award would be and market sharing.

Over 50?

Insure y

nine other transport groups of enough to compensate its empire fixing. The OFT investiples for the wait. Peter Coombes, chairman and chief executive of MTI, said that the windfall offered shareholders "the opportunity to realise

> Mr Coombes raised the prospect of a further payout in two or three years through a stock market flotation.

Analysts said that the chances of a listing were enhanced by the end of the OFT inquiry a fortnight ago after the bus companies agreed to abandon their deals on price fixing

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£10,000 +

£5.000 +

igh Interest Savings	Old Rate	rom 3 Dec 98	
I days notice noual interest option)	Gross	Gross	Gross CAR
100,000 +	6.85%	6.35%	6.35%
50,000 +	6.55%	6.05%	6.05%
10,000	6.45%	5.95%	5.95%
p to £10,000	6.25%	5.75%	5.75%

	Savings			
٦	Midland Instant Access	Old Rate	New Rate f	rom 3 Dec 98
╛	Up to £10,000	6.08%	5.61%	5.75%
- 1	£10,000	6.27%	5.80%	5.95%
ł	£50,000 +	6.37%	5.89%	6.05%
-	£100,000 +	6.65%	6.18%	6.35%

Old Rate

New Rate from 3 Dec 98

Gross CAR

4.65%

4.20%

4.00°a

4.00%

Midland Instant Access	Old Rate New Rate from 3 Dec 98				
Savings (Annual interest option)	Gross	Gross	Gross CAR		
£50,000 +	6.00%	5.50%	5.50%		
£25,000 +	5.35%	4.65%	4.65%		
£10,000 +	4.85%	4.20%	4.20%		
£5,000 +	4.60%	4.00%	4.00%		
Up to £5,000	4.25%	4.00%	4.00%		
	-	<u> </u>	·		

Old Rate

4.80%

4.56%

New Rate in

4,61%

3.97%

Deposit Account

7 days notice

£50,000 +

£25,000 +

£10,000 +

£5.000 +

4.00%	Up
om 3 Dec 98	Te fo
Gross CAR	
	(An
5.50%	_
4.65%	
4 70%	

4.00%

Tessa and	Old Rate	New Rate from 3 Dec 98
follow-up Tessa (Annual Tax Free interest)	7.80%	7.30%

5.85%

5.23%

4.75%

4.51%

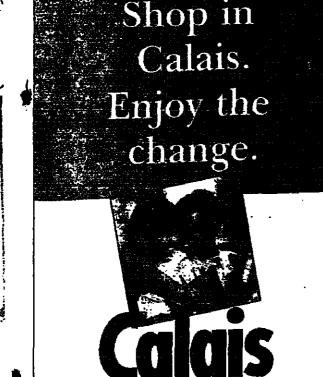
4.56%

4.13%

3.93%

3.93%

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Mortgages*				
	Old Rate	New Rate from 3 Dec 98		
	APR	APR	Int. Rate p.a.	
Home Loan Rate	9.0%	8.5%	8.20%	
Home Improvement Loan Rate (Joans sanctioned before 26 April 89)	11.0%	10.5%	10.20%	
Home Mortgage Rate	8.9%	8.4%	8.20%	

Other Secured Borrowing					
	Old Rate	New Rate from 3 Dec 98			
Homeowner Reserve	APR	APR	int. Rate p.a		
	12.6%	11.80%	11.40%		

effective from 5 November 1998

Bank Accounts

1	Old Rate	New Rate 1	TORN 3 DEC 98] }	CHO Kate	New Kate	rom 3 Dec 98
Student Bank	Gross	Gross	Gross CAR	Livecash	Gross	Gross	Gross CAR
Account	1.99%	1.49%	1,50%		4,17%	3.93%	4.00°3
	Old Rate	New Rate f	rom 3 Dec 98				
16 - 19 Year Old	Gross	Gross	Gross CAR		Base Rate (5.75%	

Gross: The rate before the deduction of tax, applicable to savings, Gross CAR (Compounded Annual Rate): The true gross return taking into account the frequency of interest payments Tax Free: Tax Free means that interest is not subject to income tax. Mortgage rates for new borrowers were effective from 17 November 1998

All rates are correct as at 3 December 1998 but may vary in the future. Midland Bank plc, 27-32 Poultry, London EC2P 2BX.

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UN inspectors to play tough in Iraq of an as some 90 weapons inspectors in Iraq of the contract of the contrac

AS SOME 90 weapons inspectors of the United Nations Spein New York cial Commission on Iraq

(Unscom) prepared vesterday military dramas of last weekend, it is impossible not to wonder how long it will be before they are again barred from doing their work by President Saddam Hussein.

This is no idle question. The record of President Saddam is clear. Each time he has been faced with military punishment he has backed down from confrontation with Unscom and romised again to co-operate. And each time he has reneged vithin weeks. This is what we saw in Feb-

ruary. President Saddam had been barring inspectors from his presidential palaces and so the United States and Britain deployed a big force in the Guif and threatened to

On that occasion Ko6 Annan. to head back into Iraq after the UN Secretary-General, went to Baghdad and agreed a memorandum of understanding with President Saddam that promised to open all doors to the inspectors. it was several months before

we knew for sure that the agreement was proving as worthiess as all previous ones. Tension increased until 5 August, when President Saddam curtailed the work of the inspectors. Even as the Security Council tried to defuse the stand-off by promising to launch a "comprehensive review" of the 1991 sanctions on Iraq, President Saddam cut off co-operation with Unscom en-

firely on 30 October. Critical to the slow degradation of Iraq's relations with Unscom during the months



Richard Butler, the UN's chief weapons inspector (left), and Tariq Aziz, Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister

after February was the policy being pursued in Washington. Behind the scenes, the Clin-

ton administration was urging Unscom to go gently on President Saddam. It did not want Unscom to trigger a new confrontation unnecessarily. If Mr Clinton's words on Sunday are to be taken at face value, policy in Washington this time will be different. When the inspectors return to Iraq this morning they will be expected not just to resume their work, but actively to test the latest

pledges of President Saddam. Mr Clinton could hardly have been more adamant. He went so far as to list five criteria by which the sincerity of President Saddam's promise will be tested. Iraq, he said, must "re-solve all outstanding issues" raised by Unscom; must give inspectors "unfettered access" to all sites; must "turn over all reievant documents"; must abide by all relevant UN resolutions: and must not interfere with the

added that if President Saddam attempts to duck any one of these criteria, the military punch that was so credibly assembled over recent days will instantly be delivered.

Already there are signs of trouble. When the Security Council met on Sunday formally to accept the Iraqi climbdown, alarm bells sounded again as Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister, went on television to make a statement that seemed partially to undo commitments made in the letters of capitulation delivered on military mode will mean im-Saturday. It was a brief panic mediate military strikes.

quickly cleared up by a telephone call from Mr Annan to Mr Aziz. But diplomats saw it as a bad omen.

Tension is likely to develop quickly, moreover, over plans for the comprehensive review that the Council says it will still undertake of the sanctions. Baghdad evidently expects that process to begin soon. London and Washington will block it. however, until the inspectors

How fast can the inspectors, who are to resume their work in earnest tomorrow. move to do that? Perhaps not as fast as Washington and London would like. Because traq has had ample time in recent weeks to shuffle any incriminating evidence of weapons, it may be able to open its doors wide to inspectors in the knowledge that it will be weeks or months before they begin to sniff gunpowder again.

There is one thing Richard Butler, head of the inspection team could try immediately: he Mr Clinton and Tony Blair could demand today that Iraq hands over documents discovered at Iraq air force headquarters this summer that seemed to contain details of its chemical-weapons capabilities.

In August Mr Aziz told Mr Butier that the documents would not be given to Unscom

But handing them over was one of Mr Clinton's five criteria. If Mr Butler asks and Iraq again demurs, we could soon be back in military mode, perhaps before the end of this week.

And if Washington is serious.

Israel halts West Bank withdrawal

BENJAMIN NETANYAHU, the Israeli prime minister, told the Israeli parliament yesterday that he would refuse to implement the land-for-security agreement with the Palestinians until Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, publicly retracted a threat to use armed

Mr Arafat said on Sunday that Palestinians would stage another intifada or uprising if Israel strayed from the path of peace and might take up arms to defend their right to pray in

The Israeli leader said: "I don't intend to carry out any redeployment under these conditions, not even the first, until this is rectified publicly and un-

equivocally."

Israel was expected to begin the first phase of its limited withdrawal from the West Bank and release 200 prisoners later this week under the terms of the Wye agreement signed in Maryland on 23 October Mr Netanyahu said: "We

are not prepared to move forward under the shadow of violence and the threat of violence." He said he would convene his cabinet tomorrow to see whether to see if the Palestinians had retracted. Mr Netanyahu has moved so

slowly in implementing the Wye agreement that it is unclear if he intends to do so at all. His slow progress and fierce rhetoric also serves to pacify his right-wing supporters.

A senior Palestinian official said that Mr Arafat had told the ísraeli leader in a telephone conversation that he was not threatening violence.

In a further sign that the Wye agreement has done nothing to reduce tensions Ariel Sharon, the Israeli foreign minister, told Jewish settlers in the occupled territories to take as much land as they could. In re-

By Patrick Cockburn

in Jerusalem

Sharon said everyone "should grab more hills. We'll expand the area. Whatever is seized will be ours. Whatever is not seized will end up in their hands".

Mr Sharon is a supporter of militant Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza. These had already been establishing new settlements but the foreign campaign of land-grabs on the Vest Bank where the level of violence is already increasing. gotiator, called Mr Sharon's remarks "a call for war".

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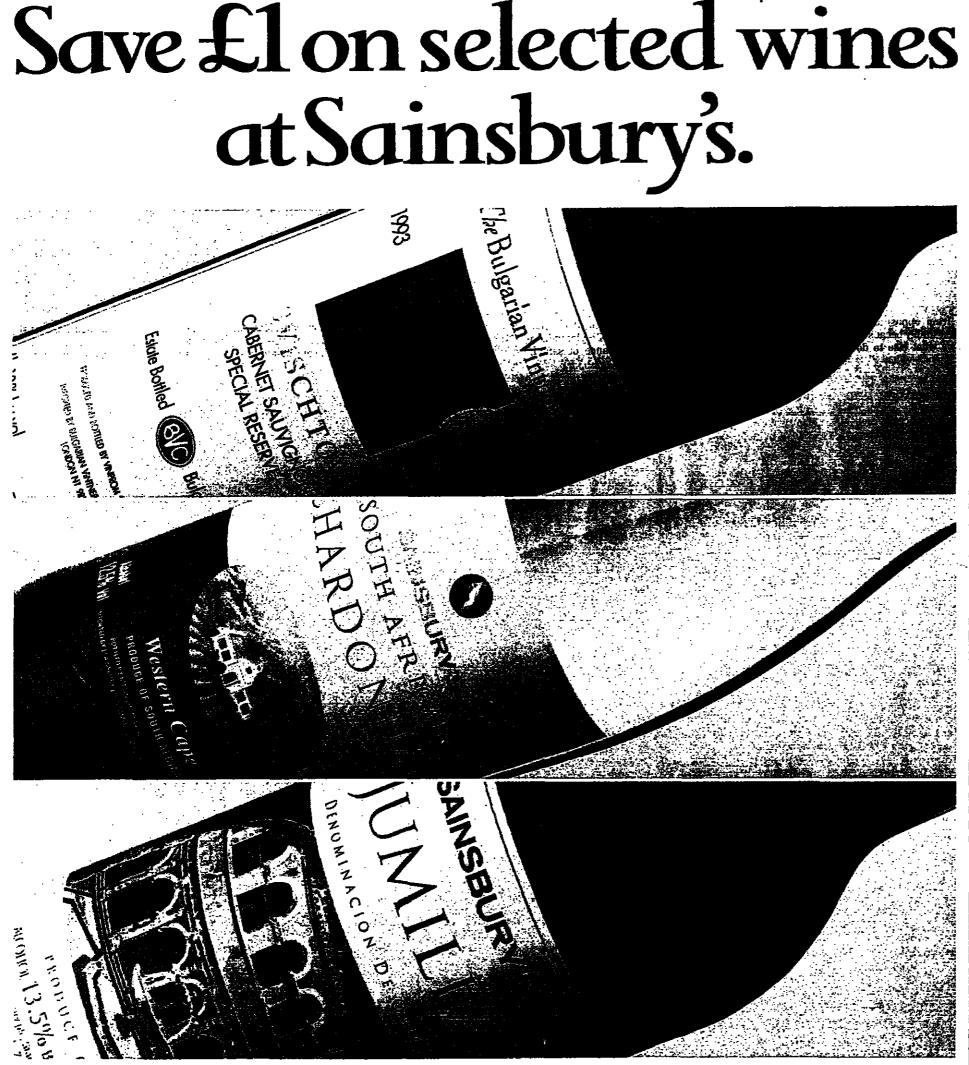
Mr Sharon also said that he was only repeating government policy. Given the number of new settlements springing up on the ground this may well be true. There are 170,000 Jewish settlers in the West Bank and Gaza, which are home to 2.5 million Palestinians. The Wye agreement does not limit settlement expansion, which is now greater than at any time since 1967.

Three Israeli soldiers were killed and four wounded by a bomb planted beside the road in south Lebanon yesterday as they went for firing practice near an Israeli base at Markaba, in the centre of the zone occupied by Israel, Hezboliah, the militant Islamic Lebanese guerrilla movement, claimed

The explosion raises the number of Israeli soldiers killed to 15 this year. Another 84 have been wounded. The Israeli-run South Lebanon Army has suffered heavier casualties over the same period with 31 killed,

Israel and the SLA are reported to have killed 28 Hezbollah guerrillas over the same

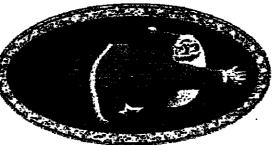
mostly by roadside bombs.



The first humanitarian United Nations workers returning to Iraq yesterday at an airbase near Baghdad







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More US aid Ira for enemies of Saddam IN RESPONSE to the Iraqi cri- By PATRICK COCKBURN sis, President Bill Clinton has in the Gulf War President Sad-

committed the United States more deeply than ever to supporting the Iraqi opposition with the aim of overthrowing President Saddam Hussein. It is a radical new direction for US

Mr Clinton claimed the US had already "deepened its engagement with the forces of change in Iraq". He said: "We will intensify that effort, working with Congress to implement the Iraq Liberation Act."

This is something of an about-turn by the White House. Mr Clinton only signed the Act, under which \$97m (£58m) in weapons and training will be made available to the Iraqi opposition, under duress from Republicans in Congress at the end of last month. Even then, the administration made no secret of the fact that it regarded it as a futile gesture. Washington's experience in

trying to overthrow President Saddam, since 1991, has not been happy. The CIA, in particular, has had its fingers repeatedly burnt. In 1995 it supported efforts to destabilise the Iraqi leader by pinprick guerrilla warfare from bases in Iraqi Kurdistan, Thereafter it gave backing, with equal lack of success, to efforts by Iraqi officers to stage a coup d'état.

Critics argue that the US campaign was never entirely serious. Washington wanted President Saddam overthrown after the Gulf War, but only if he were replaced by somebody very similar. It wanted a coup, not a revolution. It did not want to do anything to benefit Iran, its other arch-enemy in the region. It had no difficulty in living with a weakened Presienough of a threat to justify the tive joint covert action. in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

dam weathered the uprisings by the Shia and the Kurds in 1991 and the economic collapse of his country, but he was in no position to take the initiative. Gradually this changed. Attempts to get rid of him failed. In 1996 he felt strong enough to intervene in the civil war being fought in Kurdistan. His tanks captured the Kurdish capital, Arbil, before withdrawing.

The four confrontations between the US and Iraq since then have finally led Washington to decide that it cannot live with the Iraqi leader. His containment, through economic

Massoud Barzani: Leader of the Kurds in Iraq

sanctions and weapons inspections, comes only at the cost of periodic crises and military mobilisations. Effective action against Iraq

requires changes in two fundamental US policies. The first is hostility to Iran, which has a long, common border with Iraq. Without its co-operation the Iraqi opposition will have difficulty getting access to its own country. The US and the Iranians have moved closer, but dent Saddam, who posed just probably not enough for effec-

would also have to change. The crease simply beca This policy worked well for only organised and armed po "knows what else to d

leader inside Iraq are Massoud Barzani, the leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party, and Jalal al-Talabani, the head of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. Both have reached a modus vivendi with Baghdad. They are unlikely to break it unless they get guarantees that the US will defend them.

The Iraqi opposition is split. It is impossible for it to operate in Iraq proper. The Iraqi National Congress, led by Ahmed Chelabi, proposes putting military pressure on Baghdad through guerrilla action to lure Iraqi military units into changing sides. It tried this strategy in Kurdistan in 1995 but says it was let down by Washington.

The Iraqi National Accord, a London-based Iraqi group, tried to forment a coup in 1996, only to see it bloodily crushed

The failure of the INC and the INA made the US administration wary of such efforts to overthrow the Iraqi leader. It has resisted pressure from Congress to aid the INC. Senate Republican leader, Trent Lott, forced through through the Iraq Liberation Act, in the teeth of opposition from the executive. The fact that Mr Clinton

mentioned the Act favourably in his speech shows that he does not have his own policy to deal with President Saddam, other than to maintain the ceasefire terms imposed on Iraq in 1991. He has therefore taken over Republican policy, which is to repeat the CIA's successful support of Afghan rebels who opposed the pro-Soviet Kabul regime in the Eighties.

It is unclear how far the White House has thought this through. A member of the Iraqi opposition recently in Washington was struck "by the vacuum of policy". It may be that US support for



Iraqi women shopping in Baghdad, where business carried on as normal after the resumption of co-operation with Unscom

Fury in Baghdad at Western 'plot'

THE BIGGEST test of Iraq's wi- BY RICHARD DOWNES Hingness to rejoin the in- in Baghdad ternational community of nations could happen as early as midday today. The weapons inspectors of the United Nations mission (Unscom) will then start their first foray into the murky underworld of Irag's chemical and biological

weapons sites.

The inspectors first task will be to verify that the cameras and chemical-sensing devices that were left behind after their abrupt departure last Wednesday have not been damaged.

Iraqi officials have gone

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server said that Iraq "has cut the ground from under those drumming for pushing the Gulf region to the precipice of war". "[Bill] Clinton revealed his

arrogance yesterday," the govburryo said, complaining that the United States President's comments were "full of provocation [intended] to ignite internal rebellion". All the newspapers and official media sources maintain that the government will give full co-operation to Unscom.

widespread, even among Iraqis draw its certification monitors body and soul together. One of that is the truth

with little love for their government. "The Americans have laid out their cards. They want an end to Saddam [Hussein]

and they want their own people in power. I am very pessimistic," said one independent-minded Iraqi, who cannot be named. Meanwhile, most of the hu-

manitarian workers responsible for co-ordinating the flow of food and medicines into Iraq under the oil-for-food programme have arrived back in Baghdad. They are trying to pick up the pieces of a programme that was put in jeopardy by their

at the borders; without their authe least-emphasised effects thentication, suppliers cannot of a US and British bombing be paid for goods.

The UN has ordered the Lloyd's monitors back to their probably every UN proposts as soon as possible. Humanitarian workers will now have to pick up the pieces. Many perishable items are en route to Iraq and have been caught in a and panic which followed the bottleneck as the recent crisis brought trade to a halt.

Iraqis rely on the pro-Rice, flour, cooking oil and other items are supplied by the government but it would be that Iraq was committed to its impossible to survive on this ra- relations with Unscom in line by any means possible to keep

campaign would have been the end of the oil-for-food deal and gramme. The effects are likely to have been every bit as bad as any bombing - sending Iraq back to the days or hunger Gulf War in 1991.

Testing the goodwill of the Iraqi leadership has become a gramme for the basics of life. major part of the work of the United Nations, The Al-Thouro daily newspaper commented tion alone. Many find that they with word and spirit of Securi-

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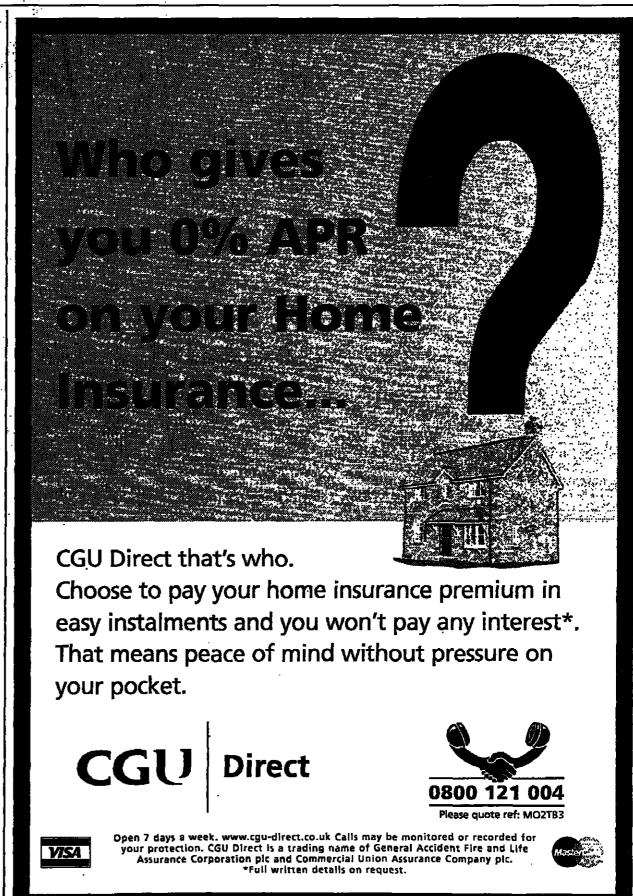
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Habibie fears takeover by military



A solitary student protester defiantly sitting in front of a line of soldiers in Jakarta yesterday

bie, does not have full control over its armed forces and is living in fear of a military takeover, according to a senior

member of his personal staff. In remarks that will cause renewed alarm over the political stability of Indonesia, Mr Habidemocracy yet. bie's spokeswoman, Dewi Fortuna Anwar, said violent disturbances, such as those in which at least 16 people died in

Jakarta last Friday, could be used by the military as an excuse to seize power. She also revealed that military commanders did not tell the President about last week's deaths until more than five hours after police and soldiers fired plastic bullets indiscriminately into crowds of unarmed demonstrators. loose too quickly." The first shots were fired at

about 3.40pm, and foreign journalists saw the body of a student killed by a plastic bullet soon after 4pm. But, according to Ms Dewi, the President was first told about the disturbances at and appears to be blaming the 9.30pm shortly before delivering the closing speech at a special ment for Friday's violence. The session of parliament. "If it is streets of Jakarta were calm for

THE GOVERNMENT of the In- BY RICHARD LLOYD PARRY a second consecutive day yes-donesian President, B J Habi- in Jakarta terday, but the police continued

formed then of course that worries me." Ms Dewi told The Independent. Asked whether the government had full supremacy over the military, she said: "Not yet. We are not in a

"For the past 32 years, the military has been the senior party in our political system and that is what we are trying to change. If we open the way to street confrontation ... we are actually handing out the sticks to the military, and that is what we have to prevent. If you have confrontations, I am scared that the civilian authority will not have control and the military will say enough is enough, we are letting

Ms Dewi's remarks explain much about the recent public statements by Mr Habibie, who has conspicuously failed to condemn the actions of the military student and opposition movement for Friday's violence. The

to arrest for questioning opposition politicians in what many

on critics of the government. In a televised broadcast, the President offered condolences to the families of those killed and promised to take "firm action gainst those who have violated the law, including the security forces". But he blamed the unrest on unspecified groups

plotting to oust his government. "The students' movement, a bearer of moral messages, has been spoilt by irresponsible groups that want to make use of the students for their own objective of attacking the government," he said, flanked by the armed forces commander, Lt-Gen Wiranto, and his predecessor, the Political and Security Affairs minister, Feisal Tanjung. "The November 13 incident constitutes a fresh example for all of us of how dangerous and costly anarchic

actions can be." Eleven people have been summonsed for questioning by the police, although by last night

none had been formally charged. They included Sri Bintang Pamungkas, a former political prisoner who was released last May from a sentence imposed for "insulting" the former president General Suharto, and Ali Sadikin, a retired general, former ic of Mr Habibie. Early yesterday, three more prominent opposition figures were arrested, including the soothsayer Permadi Satrio Wiwoho.

A police spokesman said there would be further summonses. "From the investigation and interrogation, there have been violations of the law covering conspiracy to acts of treason and to topple a legitimate government, Brigadier Togar Sianipar said.

Indonesia's controversial 'subversion" laws were regularly used to suppress critics of Mr Suharto's so-called "New Order" regime until demonstrations and riots forced him to resign last May. Yesterday, the Wahid, said that "the mention of subversion is just an effort to

EU auditor protests at lost £3bn

LAX BRITISH Customs controls are criticised in a damning annual report from the European Union's spending watchdog, which claims that E3bn, or 5 per cent, of the Community's budget could not be properly accounted for last year

For the fourth year running. Bernhard Friedmann, president of the EU Court of Auditors, will refuse to certify the annual accounts when he presents them to the European Parliament this morning because of the scale of financial irregularity, waste, mismanagement and loose controls. Some of the discrepancies are "honest mistakes", the report says, but outright fraud, in some cases, cannot be ruled out.

The report will be used as a stick with which to beat the European Commission. In it Brussels is accused of perpetuating a "spending culture" that measures the success of a project, years previously. or a policy, by the amount spent

But local regional and national authorities, who handle 80 per cent of the money, are also accused of dishing out regional and farm funds recklessly, or, of turning a blind eye when farmers claim too many animals in their herds or flocks.

One of the worst examples of waste in the report is £600m spent on trying to improve safety at dangerous nuclear power plants in the former Soviet Union since the Chernobyl disaster, Firms of Western consultants pocketed huge profits by sub-contracting work to Russian experts, while charging the EU 15 times the rate the experts were paid.

Safety studies were com-

By KATHERINE BUTLER

missioned, at a cost of 230m, but only one report had been submitted to the Russian authorities by June 1997, 11 years after Chernobyl The report blames a constantly changing staff as well as sloppy bookkeeping and administration in the relevant Brussels unit.

Britain is criticised for 22 years of ignoring its obligation to organise checks on imports of New Zealand butter, at a loss to EU taxpayers of nearly £300m in levies by Customs. Most of the money cannot be recovered now, the auditors complained.

Grants to fishermen were another source of waste and fraud. In one case, money was allocated to modernise five Portuguese boats but the auditors found they had all sunk

All EU governments are also VAT properly, leading to shortfall of nearly £50bn a year. This affects both national exchequers and the EU's coffers.

In a separate report, the Court of Auditors looked at agricultural spending, which absorbs more than £30bn each year. They found that six years after reforms designed to cut support to the richest farmers, 4 per cent of them still receive 40 per cent of the subsidies. ■ Neil Kinnock, the European transport commissioner, yesterday backed calls for new investment projects to create jobs, as Europe's socialist finance ministers prepared an initiative to put employment at the top of the economic agenda.

Welcome to Marlboro Country.

Hard times in Monte Carlo

FRANCE SHOULD consider turning off all the lights in the Principality of Monaco if the tiny country refuses to put its legal and financial house in order. This drastic threat to cut off the electricity - first used. with great success, by General de Gaulle 35 years ago - was re-activated yesterday by the august and influential newspaper Le Monde.

It was time for the French government to play tough with this "Disneyland for millionaires, providing a refuge for cheats", the newspaper said.

Monaco, consisting of one square mile, surrounded by France, imports all its electricity from its giant neighbour. De Gaulle's successful threat in 1963 to cut off the power was a "precedent worthy of study" by the present French government, Le Monde said.

Relations between Monaco and France, which partly administers the principality, have been severely strained for two years. The row centres on allegations of widespread moneylaundering in the country's 50 independent banks one bank

for every 600 permanent resi dents). According to Le Monde. young and eager investigating judges in the principality (appointed by France) have complained of interference in their work. The interference comes, it is alleged, partly from the royal palace and partly from an older guard of magistrates and judges (also appointed by

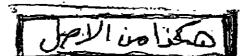
cently overruled Prince Rainier and refused to extend the mandate of the principality's chief prosecutor, a French official suspected of taking too lax a view of financial investigations

Le Monde said that Monaco was passing laws of banking se crecy, denying the concept of embezzlement and accepting the proceeds of organised crime and tax fraud.

The Monaco authorities said they were doing everything in their power to discourage money-laundering and that their judicial system was the most independent in the world.

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Prostitution is one of the main businesses for gangsters in an increasingly lawless Bombay

BOMBAY IS losing its nerve BY PETER POPHAM and its charm. India's most in Delhi dynamic city has fallen prey to

people dead this year. Bombay's gangsters, their normal sources of revenue shut down or drastically curtailed, are resorting to extorting money from deeply respectable city businesses and professionals of all sorts. Terrified of being murdered for refusing their demands, businessmen have already begun moving out of the city.

a wave of crime that has left 88

Bombay has always had its share of gangster activity, but formerly they knew their place. Gangsters involved in gold smuggling or prostitution oc-casionally rubbed out their rivals. In the Eighties they climbed aboard the property gravy train and grew rich that way. But today, with property prices as much as 40 per cent

down from their peak, and with gold smuggling no longer glit-tery thanks to import liberalisation, the goondas are getting

There is nothing sleazy about Kemps Corner: it is one of the more ghtzy shopping sections of south Bombay. Sunil Sharma (not his real name, for obvious reasons) has run a restaurant here for many years, and has long been resigned to the fact that to stay peacefully in business he must pay beksheesh both to the police and the local dada, or

But in the past six months the situation has got completely out of hand: gangsters claiming allegiance to as many as 26 different outfits have telephoned or visited, demanding money.

of them, knowing that if he pays one, the rest will find out and he will end up having to pay

and each brutal death in the city adds to the pressure. A month ago Deepak Shetty, who ran a private clinic in the suburb of light outside his clinic.

Like Mr Sharma, Dr Shetty had faced many extortion demands, but had refused to comply. Finally one of the gangs sequences. Other professionals are under similar threat, including architects, accountants and lawyers.

Since Dr Shetty's murder, Bombay has been racked by a dozen other shootings. Victims have included a jeweller, an-other doctor, builders and sev-

For every man gunned down, dozens or hundreds of coprofessionals are quaking in their boots, and scrabbling for the wherewithal to pay off the gangsters. Bombay is paying the price for a long history of erratic policing. The most powerful man in the city, the boss groups. of the extreme nationalistic cartoonist Bal Thackeray, comlast week, when a play in which few weeks.

have its inaugural performance in the city, he arranged to have it banned. Though he holds no elective post, his word has long been law in the city.

Conversely, the man said by the police and the media to be the most powerful gangster in the city Arun Gawli, recently rebranded himself as a purerthan-driven-snow politician. Mr Gawli has more than a dozen serious criminal charges pending against him, but is out on bail because no one will testify against him

Even while on remand in jail a year ago, he continued to run his gang with an iron hand. sometimes even forcing his extortion victims to come to see him in his cell.

But recently he has taken a different tack, donning the Nehru cap and the homespun Gandhian cotton of the political class, and floating his own political party, ostensibly to fight the corruption of Mr Thackeray's Shiv Sena.

He also claims to have become deeply religious. "This part of my life I have dedicated to God." he solemnly told a foreign journalist last week. The police, however, say he is a cold-blooded killer and that he continues to carry out his extortionary activities as ruthlessly as ever.

As the gunshots echo and the police, who in the past have been criticised for killing gangsters in cold blood and passing off the killings as "encounter" deaths, decline to take effective action, Bombay's traders are threatening to take matters into their own hands. The Federation of Associations of Maharashtra, an organisation that embraces 750 traders' bodies in corrupt politics and brutal but the capital, has decided to fund and organise its own defence

Shiv Sena party, the former to get out of town. Two hotels and 10 private hospitals are said ports himself like a gang leader. to have shut up shop in the past

French spy detested **US** alliance

THE FRENCH Nato spy who BY JOHN LICHFIELD gave military secrets to the in Paris Serbs acted from hatred of the United States, more than out of sympathy for Belgrade, ac-

cording to the French press. Because of his motivation, Commandant Pierre-Henri Bunel is on the way to becoming a hero in some sections of the French media. An article in the anti-American, but otherwise intelligent, magazine Marionne yesterday compared him to, among others, General de Gaulle, Joan of Arc and Sir Thomas More.

Commandant Bunel was convinced that France's real interests lay with "natural allies", such as the Serbian President, Slobodan Milosevic, and Iraq's President, Saddam Hussein, according to Le Figaro newspaper. He believed that the country was "hogtied" by its alliance with the US, and its membership of the Washington-dominated United Nations security council

Far from being a traitor, Commandant Bunel apparently regards himself as a French hero. His lawyer says that he feels no shame, since his motives were "noble". By giving Belgrade details of likely Nato air-raid targets, he is convinced that he was promoting "peace" by encouraging the Serbian leadership to end its dispute with the Western alliance over the behaviour of its forces in

The fresh revelations will irritate the French government, which had been congratulating itself on its successful handling of the incident. As both Le Monde and Le Figaro pointed out, one of the oddest aspects of "Taffaire Bunel" is that the whistle was blown - publicly - by the French government itself.

"Even a year ago, this sad story would have been dealt with within the family," said Le Figuro. In other words, Commandant Bunel would have

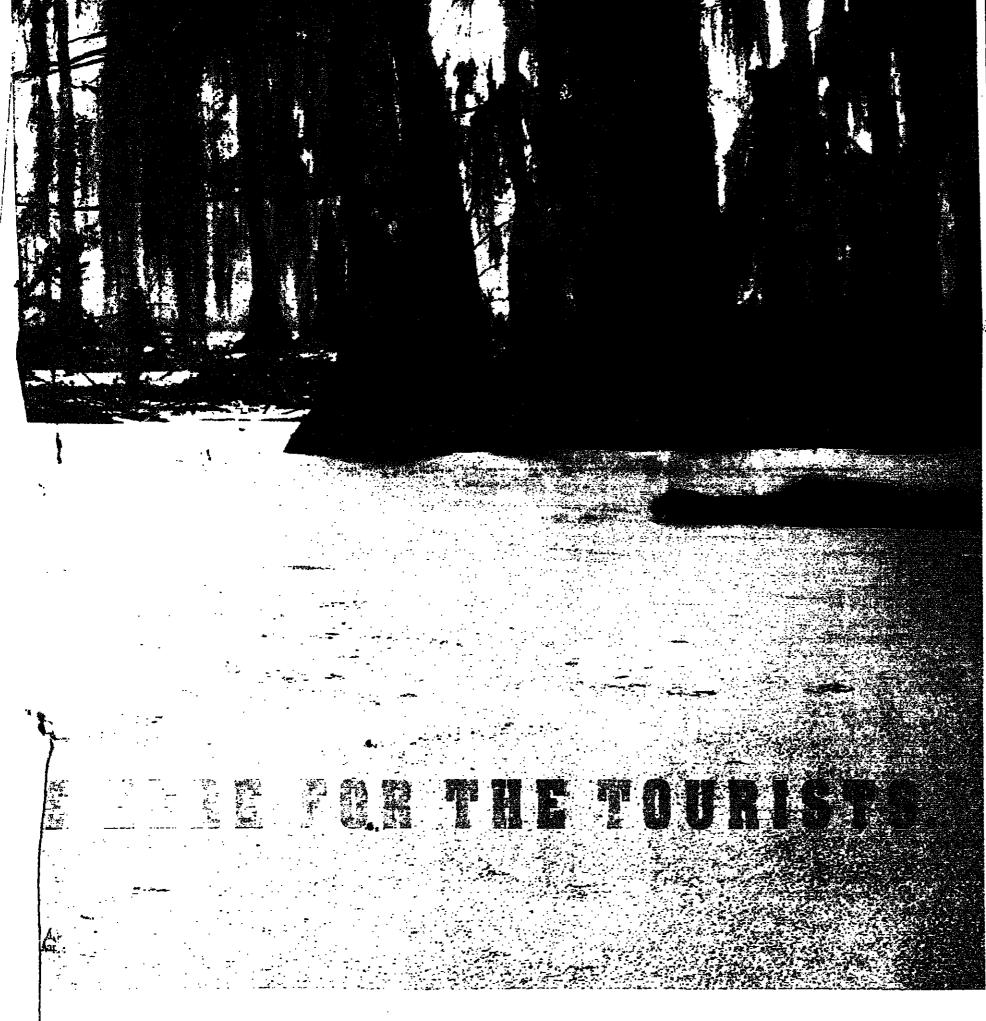
The Jospin government de-cided instead to publicise the case and to place Commandant Bunel under formal investigation for "communication with a foreign power". The decision is part of a broader drive to openness and accountability under Lionel Jospin, the Socialist Prime Minister. But confessing to the problem was also judged to be good media tactics. If the affair was covered up but leaked to the US press, it was decided, it might cause a media hue-and-cry on both sides of the Atlantic.

The tactics have proved astute. The affair has received relatively modest and restrained coverage. Paris. Washington and Brussels have agreed that the incident is closed.

The French media remain fascinated, however, with the character and motivation of Commandant Bunel Le Figaro, which traced many of his former army colleagues, said that he became anti-American after serving on the liaison staff between French and US forces in Saudia Arabia during the 1990-91 Gulf War. (Commandant Bunel was one of only five French officers to receive an American campaign medal.)

Contrary to earlier reports, it appears that the officer is not anti-Muslim and not particularly pro-Serb. His experiences in the Gulf convinced him that France was being forced, by its political membership of the Western alliance, to serve American interests rather than its own. "He wasn't really pro-Serb or pro-Arab. He was. above all, anti-American," said one French colonel, who used to serve with the spy.

Commandant Bunel made little secret of his opinions, posing the awkward question for the French government: why was such a man attached to the been quietly moved elsewhere or ejected from the military. fice at Nato headquarters?





cers' Warning ledium g Nicotine

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Germany releases its 'most wanted' terrorist

GERMAN JUSTICE finally BY IMRE KARACS caught up with one of its most wanted terrorists yesterday, and promptly let her go. In a fitting finale to a trial riddled with farce, a middle-aged mother of three was convicted of supplying the weapons used in the notorious hijacking of a Lufthansa airliner to Mogadishu in 1977.

Her punishment appeared to reflect not so much the seriousness of her alleged crime, but the solidity of the evidence against her, resting as it did on confessions of a Mossad agent taped in a Lebanese jail. For her role in one of Germany's worst terrorist crimes, Monika Haas was sentenced to five years. Since she has already served two and a half years while on trial, she was allowed to return to her small Frankfurt apartment on probation.

Haas's conviction appears to clear up one of the last great mysteries of the "German autumn": the cataclysmic events that climaxed in the storming of

in Bonn

Mogadishu, Somalia, the murder of the industrialist Hanns-Martin Schleyer, and the apparent suicides in prison of Andreas Baader and two other leaders of the Red Army Faction. Most of the central players

in the bloodiest episode in Germany's post-war history have since been killed or captured. But the blonde who smuggled the grenades, guns and detonator in a pram to the hijackers in Majorca in October 1977 had never been caught.

The terrorists, demanding the release of their German and Palestinian comrades from jails around the world, murdered the nilot and dumped his body on the airport asphalt. Three of the four hijackers were killed when German special troops stormed the aircraft in Mogadishu.

is where the matter stood until five years ago, when Monika Haas, a divorced equalopportunities officer at Franka hijacked Lufthansa aircraft in furt university, was led away



Haas; Denies involvement in Palestinian hijack

from her suburban home on the admittedly dubious evidence of incriminating Stasi documents. Her children had to fend for themselves.

Haas, nicknamed "Pretty Woman" in the underground, seemed to fit the investigators picture of the blonde who had hidden the weapons in sweettins under her three-month-old girl. She had entered the world of urban guerrillas in 1975, had attended a Palestinian training

camp, and a year later was caught in Kenya in possession of a letter carrying instructions for a commando attack on an Israeli aircraft. She married Zaki Helou, the leader in Yemen of the hard-line Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Yet she denies involvement in the Mogadishu job, and returned to Germany after her marriage broke up in the Eighties, upon official assurances that she was not being sought by the authorities.

But investigators renewed their interest in Haas when they discovered her name in Stasi files after German reunification. She challenged that evidence successfully in court, but then the prosecution produced a witness, Suhaila Andrawes, the only one of four Palestinians

who survived Mogadishu. German prosecutors persuaded Andrawes to testify against Haas in return for a reduced sentence. Andrawes obliged, but then recented. Her evidence was as unreliable as is appealing to Germany's highthe Stasi papers, the Frankfurt est court against the verdict.

court ruled yesterday. But the Germans found, several months into the trial, another witness. Languishing in a Lebanese jail was Andrawes' former husband, Said Ali Slim. German detectives spent three days interviewing Slim in his cell. This testimony, produced by a man jailed for treachery.

led to Haas's conviction. Slim described travelling with Haas and her daughter from Algiers to Majorca, to rendezvous with the hijackers. His account was so detailed as to be beyond reproach, the prosecution said. Because of his incarceration, the defence had no chance to crossexamine him. Slim has since had his sentence reduced.

Haas and civil liberties groups following her case say she is the victim of a miscarriage of justice. "Our impression was that the judges were under pressure to convict her. so as to justify this inordinately long trial," Frank Haas, her oldest son, said. Monika Haas

Local car thief aids a foreigner in distress

STREET LIFE SAMOTECHNY LANE, MOSCOW

THE DOORBELL rang. I a pancake without any caviar looked through the spy hole. on it. That some night the win-A policeman was standing in the corridor outside. I opened up and he came in, stamping minus 16C, the hardest Nothe snow off his boots.

It was Constable Bocharov, wanting to know how he could get hold of my landlady's grandson. I told him and he was about to go when he thought to say: "You shouldn't have done that, you know." "What?" I asked.

*Open the door to a "But you're a policeman,"

I told him. He replied: "You should

never open the door. Not even to the police. This area is full of bandits. They could dress up as the police. Those neighbours of yours at number 13. they're bad lads."

I knew he meant Lyosha, the cheerful local car thief, and his mates. They had never done me any harm. But perhans Constable Bocharov was right and I should be more careful

The doorbell rang again "Who's there?" I demanded through the metal door. In the spy hole. I could see an unsavoury-looking fellow in a ginger fur hat. "Phari," he bellowed through the door. Having already given myself away, I pretended not to be in. I saw him make a dismissive gesture and lope away. I went back to my reading.

About two hours later, the meaning of "phari" suddenly hit me. It had not been Comrade Phari, wanting to rob me because I was a rich Westerner living among poor Russians. It had been a neighbour

trying to do me a good turn. "Phari" is the Russian word for "headlamps" and the man had been trying to tell me that I had parked my car and left mine switched on. I rushed downstairs to find the battery in my Niva as flat as breaking off the icicles so they

ter of 1998 officially began. The temperature plunged to vember frost recorded in

Moscow for the past 30 years. If you are warm and well fed, the legendary Russian winter can have its good sides. Most Russians love it, in fact. seeing it as the natural state of affairs while the short summer is as an aberration.

My local pond, called Andropov's Puddle, looks as romantic as a Breughel painting. Children skate, fruit



Motorists stay one step ahead of the traffic police

glass cases and women walk dogs in little coats that match their own

But winter is the bane of drivers. Most of my neighbours have put their precious cars away in "rakushki" (shells), pavement-side metal garages that open and close like concertinas. They will not get them out again until spring when they will be needed for the economically vital trip to

the dacha to plant potatoes. Only Lyosha and the bad lads are still tinkering around with their various cars, And another neighbour, the highly respectable handyman Oleg, whose winter work includes clambering on to roofs and

do not drop like swertis and

kill unsuspecting passers by When morning came, I fell on their mercy. In his battered ex army four-wheel-drive, Oleg dragged me up and down the road on a rope, trying to get my car started. He would never allow his wife to drive. Bussian women should be at the stove, boiling up "pelmeni" (dumplings). But as a foreign woman, I am a creature from another planet.

"It's no use," commented Lyosha, fag in mouth. "You'll have to get a new battery I'll drive you down to Yuzhny Port." And so we went to the enormous car parts market near the Moscow River's Southern Port, a meera for "muzhiki" (real Russian men) who, in the absence of a proper system of service stations. all fix their own cars.

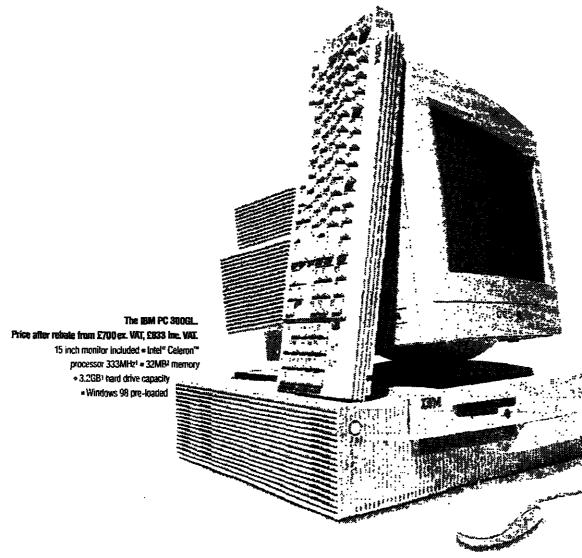
In Soviet times, when free enterprise was illegal, there was a black market in car parts. Drivers would go to appointed road junctions and meet in huddles to be told the latest venue for the moving market. Then, always keeping one step ahead of the police, they would continue on to some key by or side road for a surreptitious exchange of cash and windscreen wipers.

Yuzhny Port, though out in the open, is still a black market in a way since the mafia which runs it almost certainly under-declare to the tax man. It is not a place in which to linger. I bought a battery and an air freshener and we left.

Later, when Lyosha and the bad lads were helping me to install the hattery. Constable Bocharov plodded by: (He does not have a patrol car.) We nodded to each other. I am grateful for his security advice. I am sure he is right about crime. And I hope he has not got the wrong idea about the Englishwoman at number 15.

HELEN WOMACK

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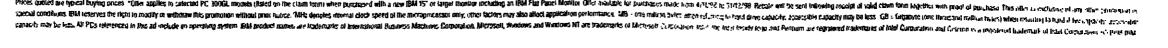
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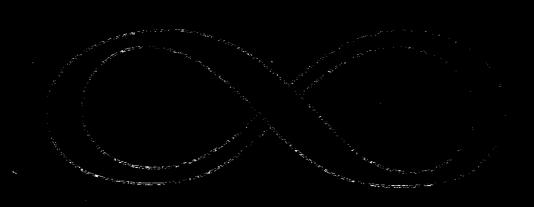
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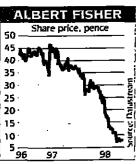
BRIEFING

Allied Carpets still weighing offers

ALLIED CARPETS said yesterday it was still considering offers for the entire company following the sale of its troubled Carpetland subsidiary to Carpetright for £13.75m. The offers include one from Alchemy, the venture capital group, at less than 60p per share.

Allied said it had received expressions of interest at 67p a share, but that after the sale of Carpetland and an improving sales performance in remaining stores it cannot recommend an offer at this level. Allied Carpets shares closed 0.5p higher yesterday at 52.5p. Carpetright, run by Lord Harris of Peckham, has bought 29 stores from Allied, including two that trade under the Harris Carpets name.

Ousted Fisher chief's £1.1m payoff



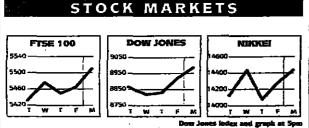
NEIL ENGLAND, ousted as chief executive of the Albert Fisher food group last month, is in line for a payoff of £1.1m, it emerged yesterday. The sum will fuel the "rewards for failure debate" as Mr England presided over a halving of Albert Fisher profits and a share price collapse during his two-year tenure as chief executive.

According to the company's latest annual report, Albert Fisher has struck a deal with Mr England under which he will be paid up to £470,850 in the current year, £565,020 next year and £94,170 the year after. The company said the payments would cease if Mr England found another job, although it will have to make up the difference for two years if the new salary is lower.

Emap looks to US for expansion

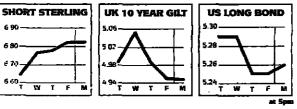
EMAP, the magazine publishing group, is considering plans to expand into the US market by linking up with a local publishing house. Emap chief executive, Kevin Hand, said he had received numerous approaches from US publishers keen to launch FHM, the group's men's magazine. "I don't think we'll license the title because that usually means low reward for low risk." He said the company might create a joint venture to introduce FHM and other Emap titles. such as health magazine Top Sante and new women's magazine Red in the US. His comments were made as Emap shrugged off worries about a possible slowdown in advertising spending with an 11 per cent rise in underlying pre-tax profits for the six months to September.

Investment column, page 25

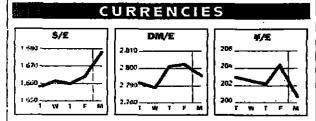


		INE	XCES		•	-
Index	Close	Change	Change(%)	52 m/k blgb :	2 wk low Yi	ekt(%)
FTSE 100	5510.50	47.30	0.87	6183.70	4599.20	0.98
FTSE 250	4835.60	9.20	0.19	5970.90	4247.60	2.09
FTSE 350	2623.20	19.60	0.75	2969.10	2210.40	1.17
FTSE Atl Share	2536.44	18.00	0.72	2886.52	2143 <u>.53</u>	1.28
FTSE SmallCap	2067.20	0.10	0.01	2793.80	1834.40	3.50
FTSE Fledgling	1137.40	1.00	0.09	1517.10	1046.20	3.60
FTSE AIM	828.40	8.00	0.98	1146.90	761.30	1.12
FTSE EBLOC 100	909.46	20.08	3 2.26			
Dow Jones	8990.39	74.15	0.83	9367.84	7400.30	1.66
Nikkei	14428.27	160.00	1.12	173 <u>52.9</u> 5	12787.90	1.02
Hang Seng	10298.09	300.10	3. <u>00</u>	11926.16	6544.79	3.03
Dax	4783.77	144.12	3.11	6217.83	3777.28	1.85

INTEREST RATES



MAC	MEY A	LARK		BOND YIELDS							
Index	3 mosth	Yr chg	1 Year	Yr chg	10 year	Yr che	Long bond	Yr dig			
UK	6.99	-0.71	6.49	-1.45	4.94	-1.70	4.58	-1,97			
US	5.41	-0.47	5.11	-0.89	4.84		5.26				
Japan	0.40	-0.02	0.45	-0.02	0.87	-0.98	1.42	-1.02			
6	2.04	0.13	3.55	~ 50	4.34	1.70		1.07			



ŀ	POI	JND		DOLLAR					
	at Spm	Change	Yr Ago		at Spor	Change	Yr Ag		
Dollar	1.6786	+153c	1.6968	Sterling	0.5957	-0.55p	0.589		
D-Mark	2.7955	-1.33pf	2.9363	D-Mark_	1.6669	-2.13pf	1,729		
Yen	200 74	-¥3.18	213.25	Yen	119.65	-¥ -2.94	125.7		
£ mdex	100.80	-0.50	104.10	S index	106.10	-1.10	106.1		

OTHER INDICATORS

	Close	Coff	Tr Ago		Index	Chg	Yr ago 1	ĸ
Srent Oil (Şı 11 <u>.31</u>	-0 20	19.26	GDP	115.40	3.00	112.04	
Gold (S)	295.15	-0.80		RPI	164,40	3.20	159.30	
Silver (S)	5.04	-0.09	5.06	Base	Rates	6.75	7.25	_

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israel (shekels)

Malaysia (ringgits)

(lira)

Japan (yen)

SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

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3	00K131	KAIES	
Australia (S)	2.5266	Mexican (nuevo peso)	15.09
Austria (schillings)	19.05	Netherlands (guilders)	3.0528
Beigium (francs)	55.96	New Zealand (\$)	2.9794
Canada (\$)	2.5221	Norway (krone)	12,11
Cyprus (pounds)	0.7994	Portugal (escudos)	275.78
Denmark (krone)	10.37	Saudi Arabia (rlals)	6.0824
Finland (markka)	8.2936	Singapore (\$)	2.6250
France (francs)	9.1061	Spain (pesetas)	230.12
Germany (marks)	2.7206	South Africa (rands)	9.1786
Greece (drachma)	457.94	Sweden (krone)	13.14
Hong Kong (S)	12.53	Switzerland (francs)	2.2469
ireland (punts)	1.0890	Thalland (bahts)	55.99
Indian (rupees)	63.52	Turkey (lirasi)	475307

6.6405

199.93

6.0828

2694

Rates for indication purposes only Source: Thomas Cook

Axa poised for £2.5bn GRE insurance bid

er, is considering a £2.5bn takeover of Britain's Guardian Royal Exchange in an effort to boost its presence in the UK market. A move could be imminent, some sources say.

Any bid would be almost certain to be made through Sun Life and Provincial Holdings, Axa's separately quoted UK offshoot, although Axa might have to step in to help fund the deal.

GRE, the smallest of the British composite insurers with a market capitalisation of around £2.4bn, has embarked on an internal restructuring aimed at giving the group a chance of remaining indepen-

dent in the medium term.

AXA, the world's biggest insur- BY JEREMY WARNER AND ANDREW GARFIELD

> sceptical about GRE's longterm future and is still angling for a takeover bid for the group. Some big City investors believe GRE is too small to survive in a fast-consolidating insurance sector and are unconvinced about the prospects for growing the PPP healthcare busi-

> National Health Service. One of the main obstacles to a deal could be GRE's chief executive, John Robins, who is determined to keep the group independent.

ness when the Government is

Axa has made no secret of its wish to expand by acquisition

the UK shareholder base of Sun Life and Provincial, which is 72 per cent owned by Axa.

Axa has been seeking to build its position in home and motor insurance on the back of its sponsorship of football's FA Cup. GRE's 5300m UK and Irish motor book would give the firm much-needed bulk in a competitive market.

Axa chairman Claude Bebear admitted some months committed to building up the ago that he had been targeting a company in the UK quoted sector but had been put off by the high prices financial assets

were fetching.
However, since then GRE's share price has fallen more than 30 per cent: the shares closed yesterday at 275p, bare-

a market value of around £4bn. our policy to comment." A Axa, its parent, is capitalised at 225bn and would have no problem finding the cash to pay for the right acquisition

Ava's last major UK move was to merge its existing Equity & Law business with Sun Life, where it had acquired a controlling stake through the all-French insurance merger with IJAP in 1996. Axa. which controls Equitable Life in the US and National Mutual in Australia, is also keen to build up its UK shareholder base. A merger with a UK player would

be the obvious route to this goal. Executives at Axa were last night unavailable to respond to questions about a bid for GRE.

Sun Life and Provincial has This is market rumour. It is not senior executive of GRE said he was not aware of any approach

Analysts said yesterday that the injection of Guardian's small life insurance business into PPP, the healthcare business acquired earlier this year, had made GRE more rather than less attractive to any predator.

The restructuring is too little, too late. Sun Life will be buying into a business where someone has already done the hard work for them." said Matthew Wright, insurance analyst at Daiwa. "It is not an overly compelling deal for them, but there aren't any mas-

£600m plan for a Euro network

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

C&W in

CABLE & WIRELESS yesterday unveiled plans to expand its European telecoms business at least tenfold through a \$600m investment in a new network linking 40 cities on the Conti-

The ambitious five year programme could see C&W's revenues in Europe burgeoning from about £100m a year new to well over £1bn by carly next century.

In the first phase of the expansion. C&W is spending about £120m to acquire enough capacity on existing transmission and fibre-optic networks to provide a voice, Internet and data network linking 28 cities including Paris, Brussels, Berlin. Amsterdam, Rome, Geneva and Madrid.

Separately, C&W intends to start up new operations in Frankfurt and Dusseldorf to serve the German market. The expansion will create 1,000 jobs although the vast bulk of these will be in continental Europe.

The decision to roll out its own network follows the collapse of the planned alliance between C&W and Telecom Italia. Stephen Pettit, executive director of global business at C&W, did not rule out an eventual link-up with the Italians, or other strategic partners.

But he said that any alliance partner would have to add ralue to the C&W network.

C&W intends to target the network at business customers. such as large multi-nationals. and as part of the marketing is launching its first pan-Euro-

pean advertising campaign. Mr Pettit said that the aim was to double revenues each year for the next few years. If C&W achieved that target, then sales could be as high as £3bn by 2004. BT has set itself a target of generating £4bn of revenue from Europe by 2007.

Europe is the second biggest telecoms market in the world worth about £100bn a year.

Mr Pettit said the expansion would transform C&W's presence in Europe from "corner shops on A-roads to hypermarkets on motorways".

C&W is acquiring part of its European network from Hermes Europe Railtel, a telecoms transmission system owned jointly by a number of continental railways. It is also paying Global Crossing about £60m to acquire a 7,200km network capable of handling 5 mil-

sively obvious fits left." However, the City remains in the UK. It is also keen to grow ly in line with its net asset value. A spokeswoman said later: Formula One calms inquiry fears

By PETER THAL LARSEN

FORMULA ONE, the secretive company run by Bernie Ecclestone, yesterday tried to quash worries about an investigation into its affairs by the European Commission which are threatening to scupper its plans to raise \$2bn from the sale of corporate bonds.

Formula One Administration, the holding company re-sponsible for issuing the bonds, yesterday rushed out a statement stressing its belief that issues raised by the Commission investigation "have now been, or can be, dealt with".

The statement contradicts an investigation by the BBC Panorama programme, broadcast last night, which alleged that Mr Ecclestone had made misleading statements about the Commission investigation an attempt to com vestors to buy the bonds.

The roadshow to sell the bonds moved into top gear yesterday, with 200 potential investors convening at a London hotel to hear a presentation about the company's prospects. Formula One Administration

is attempting to raise cash by selling bonds backed by future revenues from the sale of live television rights to Formula One races. Revenues from the rights are expected to grow over the next few years following the launch of digital television, which enables viewers to choose the camera angles from which they want to watch the race.

Formula One Administration's grip on the rights could be Formula One Administration's stone to float Formula One on



Bernie Ecclestone, head of Formula One, met investors in London yesterday as eurobond sale gets under way

jeopardised by the Commission inquiry, which aims to determine whether the company's 15-year deal with the Federation International Automotive, the governing body, to secure the rights is anti-competitive. Panorama claimed the

the investigation could be dealt with. But the company yesterday pointed out that the Commission had not issued a formal statement of objection.

The bond issue, which is shrouded in secrecy, follows a Commission disagreed with failed attempt by Mr Eccle-

has yet to disclose what the Meanwhile, Warburg, Pin-

group, yesterday took an equity stake in Jordan Grand Prix, the Formula One racing team run by Eddie Jordan, for an undisclosed sum. The move comes a championship winning team." | lion calls at once.

suggestion that issues raised by the stock market last year. He after Mr Jurdan admitted he was keen to attract outside invest-\$2bn he raises will be used for. ment. Dominic Shorthouse, managing director of Warburg. cus. the fund management Pincus in London said: "Eddie Jordan has demonstrated all the qualities of a dynamic and successful entrepreneur. We now have the platform to build

Ashcroft buys Abacus | Microsoft judge laughs recruitment for £15m | over Gates wordplay

MICHAEL ASHCROFT, the millionaire treasurer and financial backer of the Conservative Party, bounced back into the City spotlight yesterday with the £14.6m acquisition of recruitment group Abacus.

Mr Ashcroft, a Florida-based tax exile who made £150m selling his ADT security and car empire to US group Tyco last year, used his Carlisle Holdings investment vehicle to offer 189p in cash and paper for each Abacus share - a 40 per cent premium on Friday's close. The deal, Carlisle's first ac-

quisition since it floated on the

By Francesco Guerrera

junior AIM in July, will net Gary Ashworth, the Abacus founder and chief executive, over £8.5m. Mr Ashworth, who founded Abacus at 21 and floated it on AIM two years ago, will remain as head of the group's recruitment division.

The purchase of Abacus is the first step of Mr Ashcroft's strategy to build Carlisle into a large services group centred on recruitment, security and cleaning services. The Tory grandee, whose personal fortune is estimated at around

£500m, formed Carlisle through the acquisition of a defunct property company chaired by Nigel Wray, the property tycoon.

Mr Ashcroft, a Belize national recently appointed the country's UN ambassador, injected Capital Group, an AIMlisted security specialist, Recruit, a private recruitment business, and LI Group, a cleaning outfit, into Carlisle.

This year Abacus posted a pre-tax profit of £1.74m, up from £386,000 in 1996. Shares in Abacus yesterday soared 42.5p to 177.5p. Carlisle closed 0.75p

antitrust case shook his head in disbelief and laughed yesterday as the court watched Microsoft chairman Bill Gates questioning what was meant by the words "concern," "compete' and "we" in his videotaped pre-trial testimony yesterday.

Much of the hour-long segment related to the Justice Department's lead attorney, David Boies, pushing Mr Gates to say which company Microsoft saw as its largest competitor in the Internet browser market in January 1996. Mr Gates repeatedly dodged

THE US judge in the Microsoft Mr Boies' questions, although internal Microsoft e-mails and documents have shown that the company viewed Netscape Communications' Navigator browser as its biggest rival "My question is what non-Mi-

crosoft browsers were you concerned about in January 1996," Mr Boies asked. "Is it - are you asking me about when I wrote this e-mail or what are you asking me about?" Mr Gates said. "Tm asking you about Jan-

uary of 1996," Mr Boies said. "That month?" Mr Gates asked "Yes, sir," replied Mr Boies. "And what about it?"

Mr Gates questioned again. "What non-Microsoft browsers were you concerned about in January of 1996," Mr Boies repeated. "I don't know

what you mean 'concerned,"

Mr Gates said. "What is it about the word 'concerned' that you don't understand?" Mr Boies replied. "I'm not sure what you mean by it," Mr Gates said.

The Justice Department and 20 states allege Mr Gates orchestrated a scheme to protect Microsoft's Windows monopoly and crush possible threats. - Bloomberg

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON

SHARES CLOSED higher but below their best levels. Footsie, at one time up 77.5 points, ended 47.3 firmer at 5,510.5. The mid cap index rose 9.2 to 4,835.6 and the small cap managed just token headway. The market was encouraged by hopes of another cut in US interest rates.

Vodafone, the mobile phone group, was the best performing blue chip, rising 41.5 to 851.5p, ahead of today's figures and a higher valuation for its soon-to-be floated Greek offshoot. Derek Pain, page 25

NEW YORK

STOCKS ROSE on optimism that the Federal Reserve will cut interest rates today. Ted Bridges at Bridges Investment Counsel believes "10,000 on the Dow by year-end is not outside the realm of possibility." The Dow rose 72.61, or 0.8 per cent, to 8992.20 in midday trading, after rising above 9000 for the first time in three and a half months.

The Dow has climbed 22 per cent from the 1998 low of 7400.30 it reached on 1 September, and is within striking distance of its record of 9337.97, set on 17 July.

TOKYO

STOCKS ROSE moderately on hopes that the government's economic package will be followed by more stimulus measures. The benchmark Nikkei 225 climbed 160.06 points, or 1.12 per cent, closing at 14,428.27.

The markets were disappointed that the package contained little more than was already expected. The Nikkei eased back slightly after the announcement. But traders said investors were hesitant to sell stocks because the government might yet unveil further measures

to bolster the economy. News analysis, page 22

PARIS

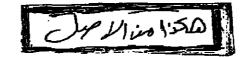
SHARES GAINED sharply on hopes of a US interest-rate cut today and an encouraging response to weekend apartment sales in the territory. The Hang Seng index ended up 300.10 points, or 3 per cent, at 10,298,09.

Buying interest in Hong Kong was focused on the property sector after Sino Land said that weekend apartment sales had gone well. Any change in US interest rates is usually matched by Hong Kong's banks owing to the Hong Kong currency's peg to the US dollar.

FRANKFURT

SHARES CLOSED higher amid expectations of a US rate cut and talk of mergers in the chemical sector. The Xetra DAX closed at 4,785.76. up 141.96 while the DAX ended the floor session up 144.12 at

Traders said the German market, which normally weakens when the US dollar falls, held up despite easing against the dollar, This perhaps shows the market has stabilised," said one. Chemicals led gainers on reports that Hoechst and Rhone-Poulenc



The second secon

How Asia has mugged British Steel

BRITISH STEEL used to be the stock market's favourite currency play. By way of a simple arithmetic formula profits, could be adjusted up or down by £10m for every one pfennig that the German mark moved against the pound.

For the last three years this has allowed the analysts to plot British Steel's fall from grace and its exit from the FTSE 100 Index with an unusual degree of accuracy.

Sir Brian Moffat belly-ached like mad, of course, about the strength of the pound and the damage it was doing to the bottom line. All the while, however, he was ferociously trimming the cost base so that British Steel, already the most efficient steelmaker in Europe if not the world, could live with even the most ruinous exchange rate.

The latest hatchet job involves cutting heads by 12,000, of which 5,000 will have gone by the end of this financial year. By the time the programme is complete, British Steel will be a mean, lean beast in-

As a small bonus the exchange rate formula has at last begun to swing back in Sir Brian's direction. Sadly, just as this happened the business was mugged by the steep-



Outlook

est decline in prices he can remember in his working life. The backwash from the Asian crisis has left the world swimming in unwanted steel.

Like iron filings to a magnet, it went first to the United States, where the Clinton administration promptly threatened anti-dumping duties. Now the tide has turned towards Europe. The result is that imports are at double normal levels and the price of hot-rolled coil has slumped by 30 per cent in the space of less than three months.

The impact on British Steel has been like an iron bar on the head. Profits were down by a quarter in the first six months and British

Steel is facing a sizeable loss for the full year. Sir Brian has pledged to maintain the dividend but will have to dig deep into reserves to do so.

British Steel reckons the UK will be in recession next year notwithstanding the Government's belief that it will not. While there may not be much Tony Blair can do to avert this, he could help British Steel out by getting tougher on the dumping steel from Asia and eastern Europe. For once, this is not a crisis in manufacturing that the Goverument can explain away by citing the productivity gap.

Single currency

WITH JUST 44 days to go before Dday for the single currency, there is still a lorryload of detail yet to be agreed, defined, refined and announced to the outside world about how the European Central Bank, which will determine European interest rates, will work in practice.

One of those things is quite how open and accountable the ECB will be. Wim Duisenberg, the ECB's president, has already said that minutes of the ECB's deliberations will not be published for many years.

He's against all this accountability lark, you understand, not because he's undemocratic but on the not unreasonable grounds that the more public the ECB is about what it's doing, the more prone it will be to bickering and the pursuit of national self-interest. Leave it to us technocrats, we know what we're doing, seems to be his attitude.

On the other hand, there's nothing in the ECB's terms of reference to say it cannot publish minutes, and the issue has yet to be decided finally. On the face of it, Britain has no say in these matters, since it is not among the 11 countries founding the single currency and is not repre-sented on the ECB board. But that's not stopping Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, mounting a campaign for greater openness, a case he is pressing vigorously among finance ministers in Europe. When he meets Oskar Lafontaine on Thursday he

may be pushing at an open door. Mr Lafontaine, Germany's new finance minister, is already at odds with central bankers over interest rates, which he thinks too high for Germany and although he hasn't said so overtly, he's bound to be in the greater accountability camp. Mr Brown is working with Mr La-

fontaine and other left leaning Eu-ropean finance ministers on a state-nation reinforcing its credibility. ment - provisionally titled "The New European Way: Economic Reform and the Framework for Economic and Monetary Union" - which

will address some of these issues.

As a recent paper by the Centre for Economic Policy Research said, one of the biggest potential problems faced by the ECB is that in a recession, fiscal discipline is likely to break down, forcing the ECB into an every tougher policy stance on interest rates. In these circumstances it is vital that some cooperation between fiscal and monetary authorities is maintained. In a world where there is no public explanation of why rates are changed and no knowledge, other than by leak and innuendo, of how council members have voted, this would be difficult to the point of impossibility.

Members of the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee are generally doing a good job at explaining themselves, not just through the presence of regularly published minutes of their meetings, but also through the speeches they give which illuminate the methodology used in reaching interest rate decisions, thus opening it up to

There is no such transparency planned for the ECB. Just to give one example of the effect of this, Mr Duisenberg does plan to publish an inflation target, but there will be no inflation forecasting. As there will be no explanation of interest rate decisions, the outside world will be left to speculate and guess at how the ECB might respond to deviations in inflation, what lead times it might apply and how sensitive it thinks

prices are to movements in rates. A quite unacceptable degree of uncertainty verging on the arbitrary will enter proceedings, and the ECB will find itself wide open to criticism and ridicule. It may be that by the time Britain enters the euro, the necessary degree of public accountability has already been injected, but certainly there could be no question of going in without it.

Formula One

BERNIE ECCLESTONE is undoubtedly an outstanding, if controversial entrepreneur. But in the financial markets he is becoming something of a joke. Formula One,

the motor racing rights business Mr Ecclestone built up from scratch. has already been through a failed flotation. Now Mr Ecclestone is back, peddling a plan to raise \$2bn by securitising the company's future television revenues.

No sooner has the investor roadshow started, however, than Mr Ecclestone finds himself turning into the pits again, accused of making misleading claims about an European Commission investigation into his company's stranglehold on Formula One television rights. His advisers insist everything is above board. Unfortunately, the prospectus for the bond issue remains a semi-secret document. available only to potential investors. so we don't know this to be the case.

No doubt some professional investors will dutifully read the numerous financial health warnings and then take the plunge anyway. The question is whether they will give Mr Ecclestone the price he wants. The deal when raising money from the financial markets is that you trade information for cash. As long as Mr Ecclestone's affairs remain so shrouded in secrecy, the City will continue to demand a quite a price for backing him.

• Action to boost credit unions Brussels wins new power

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday BY ANDREW VERITY launched a package of measures to stimulate the growth of credit unions as part of its drive to end the exclusion of 2.5 million people from financial services.

Patricia Hewitt, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said: "We have one of the most competitive and sophisticated financial services sectors in the world - but some people are still missing out. And for those people financial services mean cheque-cashing shops and iliegal loan sharks.

"Credit unions have been doing invaluable work by providing savings facilities, low-

education to the less well off. The Government is determined to encourage the sector."

Credit unions are small, mutually-owned savings groups which make loans as low as £50 to their members, typically at interest of 1 per cent a month.

Members must share a "common bond", such as working for the same employer or living in the same area. Examples range from News International to Duckinworth, a local credit union in Manchester.

Whereas a quarter of US workers belong to a credit cost credit and financial members. Assets are £118m.

The Government's reforms. in the form of proposals in a consultation document, aim to help credit unions by relaxing arcane legal restrictions. The reforms are aimed at the 2.5 million people who have no building society or bank account.

A cap on membership of 5,000 people will be lifted, while rules defining the "common bond" will be eased. Credit unions will be allowed to borrow from sources other than banks and offer basic services such as bill payment.

Unions will also be allowed to offer interest-bearing share accounts. The Treasury prounion, there are only 216,000 UK poses to lift a cap on savings by under 18s from £750 to £5,000.

The Financial Services Authority will regulate the unions.

However, there was disappointment yesterday from the credit unions themselves, which wanted the reforms to go further. The Association of British Credit Unions (ABCU), a trade body, said it was dismayed the Treasury had

rejected several key requests. Chris Smith, spokesman for the body said: "The restrictions we have in place are probably the worst in the world. On the one hand they say they will relax the rules. But on the other hand they seem to be taking things away."

Mr Smith said new conditions, including a 10 per cent through a dividend.

minimum on capital reserves could hinder rather than help. The Treasury has also refused to lift the ceiling on savings above £5,000 per member.

"We feel that there is a definite will in the Government to do something about this, but there doesn't seem to be the same will in the Treasury. We just want it to be freed up a bit," Mr Smith said.

Members of credit unions rarely default because of the common bond. Bad loans typically amount to less than 1 per cent of a loan book, against 4 per cent for high street banks. Surpluses go into reserves or are distributed to members

to tackle illegal state aid

NEW MEASURES to clamp down on illegal government subsidies to European industry were agreed yesterday, giving Brussels tough new powers to order cash to be repaid.

Industry ministers agreed to a British-backed package of measures to help achieve a evel playing field among manufacturers in the single market. The regulation is likely to come into effect next year.

The European Commission already has powers to approve or reject state industrial aid. It can set conditions requiring a company to restructure to ensure fairness in the 15 EU states.

BY STEPHEN CASTLE in Brussels

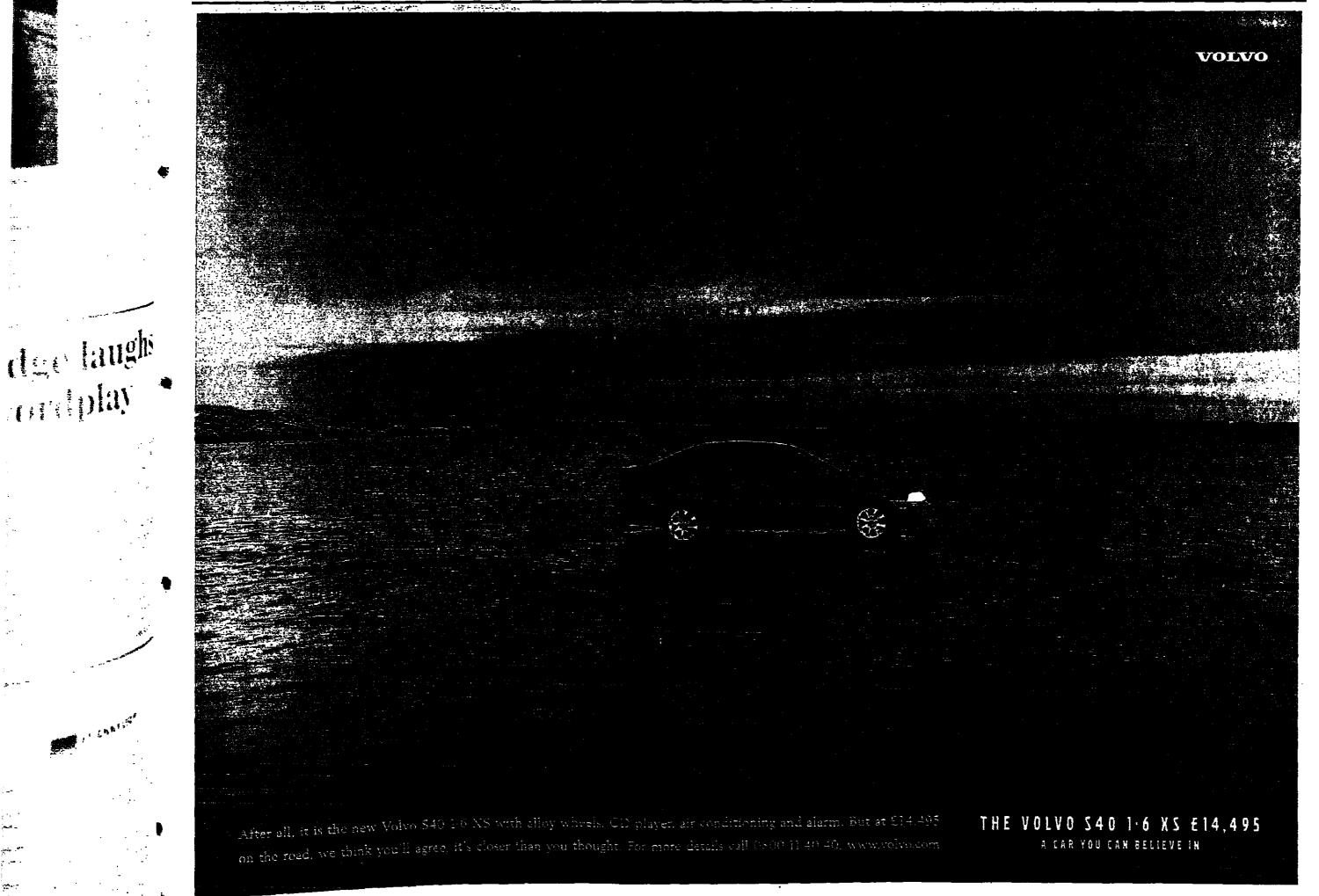
The regulation, adopted yesterday in Brussels, gives the Commission more power to recover unlawful aid and monitor conditions attached to the multi-billion pound grants made available legally each year.

In some circumstances EU officials will be allowed to visit companies suspected of breaching the rules, inspect

records and interrogate staff. In Germany the recovery of illegal state aid can take up to eight years because of cumbersome legal procedures.

Volkswagen is among German companies known to have received unlawful financial assistance. British textile manufacturers have also lost out to Belgian firms known to have benefited from subsidies which did not match EU criteria.

Lord Simon, Minister for Trade and Competitiveness in Europe, said: "Too many governments flout the rules on how these subsidies can be paid. These new powers should help to clamp down on the worst abuses and excesses. The UK has set an example by being one of the lowest subsidisers in the EU.



17/1//000

Japan unveils £118bn rescue deal

News Analysis: The markets are not convinced that tax cuts and free shopping coupons will halt the economic decline

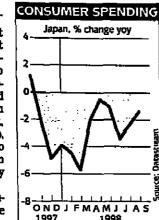
BY LEA PATERSON

THE JAPANESE government yesterday unveiled its biggest economic rescue package worth £118bn – in an attempt to drag its economy out of its deepest recession since the Second World War. It plans to slash taxes, pump up investment, and, in a highly unusual step. issue free shopping coupons to tens of millions of consumers in an attempt to get the economy back on track again.

But the markets are not convinced - most analysts believe the package will fail to halt the slump in the world's second largest economy. If £118bn cannot solve Japan's problems.

The scope of Japan's economic and financial difficulties is extraordinarily wide. The country is in the grip of a deep recession. The economy is expected to contract by 2.6 per cent this year, and, at best, will stagnate in 1999. Indeed, total demand is so far below potential supply - that is, the output gap is so large – that prices are falling.

Asset prices have collapsed and the levels of indebtedness are nothing short of staggering. Banks are refusing to lend to all but the most creditworthy, and many fear the financial system is close to collapse. With both unbankruptcies at record highs the latest figures show business



that even the promise of "free money" may fail to tempt consumers back into the shops.

In most countries, the authorities respond to the threat of looming recession in three ways. First, they cut interest rates. Second, they loosen fiscal policy, by cutting tax and/or boosting spending. Finally, they may embark on so-called "structural" reforms which try and improve the way the economy works, although these are

generally a longer-term solution. In Japan's case, interest rates are virtually zero, and have been for many months. Rates cannot fall much further - only by 0.25 of a percentage point or so - and a cut of such a small size will employment and corporate make no difference to Japan's economic position. This means the authorities have to rely on a failures up for the 17th consec- combination of fiscal measures utive month - it is no wonder and longer-term structural re-

forms to pull the economy out of the mire.

So, on the face of it, the Japanese authorities seem to be doing the right thing. They have announced a massive fiscal package and have approved plans aimed at restoring confidence in the debt-ridden financial system. So why are analysts so pessimistic?

The difficulties lie less with the general principles – cutting tax, boosting spending and sorting out the banks - and more with implementation. Take the fiscal package first.

Despite the large headline numer, which, at £118bn, is £20bn. higher than the markets were expecting after the ruling Liberal Democratic Party outlined the package last week, analysts have their doubts. Experts say the headline number is "exaggerated" and many say tax cuts will do little to boost consumption. As Lehman Brothers put it

week, before the precise size of the package was known: "The package appears to contain the usual exaggerations, and given a flimsy private sector base and compositional shortcomings, we have little faith in its ability to do more than partial-

in a research note issued last

ly fill a cavernous output gap." Economists say the proposed cuts in income tax, which will take the top rate of tax from 65 per cent to 50 per cent, will simply be saved not spent. The government also plans to cut other rates of income tax, al-

A shopper checks vegetables in a Tokyo supermarket, but it may take more than 'free money' to tempt back consumers

though is unlikely to spell out details until the new year.

Reaction to the government's proposal to issue 35 million consumers - mostly the under-15s and the elderly - with gift vouchers worth £100 each has been equally unenthusiastic. Neil Parker, at the Royal

Bank of Scotland, said the plan - first suggested by Japan's Buddhist party - would mean that customers would substitute one type of spending for another. The lucky recipients would simply switch from

spending cash to spending vouchers and there would be no overall boost to consumption.

What the markets would like to see is a cut in so-called consumption tax - an indirect tax like VAT. The government's decision to hike consumption tax back în April 1997 is widely blamed for helping to tip the economy into recession. But the government is said to regard such a volte-face on tax as politically unpalatable.

Banking reform is the other area where the markets are keen to see action. There has been some progress here - the government has passed bills to ther restructure or close.

But the markets feel the government has not done enough. According to Stephen Lewis, chief economist at Monument Derivatives, the conditions attached to official assistance are so strict that few banks were willing to ask for help. Many in the markets advocate a mandatory scheme, where struggling

allow the authorities to help

banks in trouble, but only if the

banks agree to come forward.

banks are taken over by the government and are forced to ei-

So although the latest Japan ese package looks impressive at first, many believe there is not enough meat on the bones. Key proposals - such as cutting consumption tax - are conspicuously absent. Banking reform is progressing painfully slowly, and politics is all too frequently put before economics. Despite the claims of the policy-makers the Japanese economy is far from being back on course.

IN BRIEF

Electricity choice spreads further

COMPETITION IN electricity supply will be extended to a further 4 million customers by mid-December, it was announced yesterday. Over 1 million customers have already signed up to change their supplier." said a spokesman for the Electricity regulator. Total customers with access to competition has risen to more than 5.5 million. Domestic customers can save £40 on an annual bill of £275 by switching, the spokesman said.

Air traffic grows

PASSENGER TRAFFIC at BAA's seven UK airports rose by 6.4 per cent on the same month last year, with strong growth on North Atlantic routes. BAA said its passenger total climbed to 10 million. Traffic on North Atlantic routes rose 10.1 per cent, while other long-haul routes gained 6.5 per cent. the biggest annual increase in more than a year. Shares in BAA closed up 13p at 661p.

Asian acquisition

BERISFORD, the Magnet Kitchens and Welbilt ovens business, hopes to announce an Asian acquisition by yearend. A deal is likely to be in the catering equipment. which supplies ovens and grills to fast service outlets.

Sidlaw profit rise

THE SIDLAW GROUP, a food packaging company, announced a 67 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £8m for the year to September. Chief executive John Durston said demand for food "does not fluctuate significantly during an economic downturn".

Abbot windfarms

SHARES IN Abbot rose 21p to 195p yesterday after the oil services group unveiled plans to develop and operate windfarms around the UK with PowerGen. Abbot said it would acquire 50 per cent of the issued share capital of PowerGen's unit_PowerGen Renewables, for £5.35m and subscribe for 150,000 new ordinary shares in the unit.

Wardle pressed BRIAN TAYLOR, chief

executive of UK industrial group Wardle Storeys, said the strength of sterling "continues to exert pressure on our prices" and will reduce profits by up to £1m this year. Announcing a rise in pre-tax profits of 12.5 per cent to £14m, Mr Taylor said he expected a sharp rise in revenues from the Inflatable makes hi-tech products for the shipping industry and Lazards as financial advisers. | the military.

The New Tudor Chronograph, around £1,000. MARSTON, the Burton brewer, By Clifford German



Available in a choice of black or steel bezel, with either a black, white, red, green, silver or blue dial with either a leather strap or steel bracelet. Waterproof to fifty metres, scratchproof glass, with a Swiss made, self-winding mechanical movement. A comprehensive range of Tudor models and further information is available from: Sour and September of Roles Offices Repaired in Roles Offices (Repaired in Roles Offices of Repaired in Roles Offices of Repaired in Roles Offices of Repaired in Roles Offices of R





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Marston agrees Nomura pub deal

yesterday brushed aside a possible merger approach from Wolverhampton & Dudley and signed a package deal with Nomura investment broking arm to securitise most of its tenanted pubs in return for £135.3m cash.

At least £60m will be returned to shareholders if they approve the deal at a meeting on 9 December. The balance will be invested in improving the rest of the Marston estate, including the brewery, 259 managed houses and its flagship Pitcher & Piano and Via Vita chains. W&D is expected to chal-

lenge the deal, which gives Marston the exclusive right to only four years. Last week the City was expecting W&D to bid around 275p a share for Marston and the shares fell 17p to 226.5p yesterday.

rate and no

also create an exceptional profit of £30m for Marston this

year, and the 569 tenanted properties in the deal will revert after 28 years to a holding company in which Marston has a 51 per cent stake. In the meantime the estate will be run by a management company. The profits from the

tenancies (£15.8m in the year to 28 March) will go to pay the interest on bonds issued to raise finance for the transaction. The finance will come from about a dozen institutional investors that are putting up £155m for a package of fixed-

2-rate bonds. Al-

most £20m will be swallowed up by fees, including £5m in stamp duty and £2.5m retained to in-The deal with Nomura will

vest in the pubs, plus legal costs and fees to Nomura and

COMPANY RESULTS

Name	Turnover (£)	Pre-tax (£)	EPS	Dividend	Pay day	X-div
Adam and Harvey Grp (f)	13.180m (17.915m)	1.519m (2.552m)	18.8p(32.6p)	8.0a (13.5a)	05 01 99	30 11 98
Applied Helographics (I)	7.22m (5.32m)	"1,021m (0.087m)	3.7p (0.21p)			
Beaufart Greep (1)	2.020m (1.835m)	0.218m (1.835m)	0.07p (0.03p)	nā (nil)		
Beristard (F)	583.4m (532.2m)	50.2m (50.4m)	30.8p(37.3p)	9.5p(6.5p)	07 01.99	04 01 99
James Crepper (1)	25.091m (26.978m)	0.675m(1.470m)	5.0p (11.0p)	1.4p(1.4p)	08 01 99	14,12,98
EMAP (I)	410.2m(376.1m)	66.4m(47.4m)	20.7p(12.0p)	5.70(4,950)	08.01.99	30 11 98
GB Radways Grp.(1)	43.29m(43.60m)	0.977m(2.132m)	7.7p(15.5p)	1.50(11)	25.01.99	23 11.98
Marston, Thomp. & Evershed () 114 5m(108.5m)	14.7m(15.8m)	13.72p(12.71p)	3.3p(3.0p)	30 12 98	23 11.98
Pillar Property (I)	21 4m(26 7m)	10.04m(6.85m)	4 9o(3.4p)	2.0p(1.8p)	06.01.99	14 12.98
Remold (I)	86.5m(92.7m)	8.5m(11.0m)	8.90(13.00)	3.1p(3 1p)	29 01 99	23 11 98
Skillaw Group (F)	154.53m(157.69m)	7.073m(20.997m)	9 80(26.90)	2.75o(2.25o)	07.04.99	04 01.99
690 Greap (i)	59.0m(65.4m)	3 892m(3.783m)	5.65(5.15)	1.50(1.50)	11 01.99	lba
Urigate (I)	1.122bn(1.175bs)	67.5m(67.4m)	21.7p(21.3p)	7 90(7.50)	05.01 99	30 11 98
Wardie Stereys (F)	116.39m(112.58m)	15.78m(12.47 <i>m</i>)	47.5p(32.6p)	22.0p(20.5p)	06 01 99	23,17 98
Werkspace Group (1)	5.48m(4.99m)	1.74m(1.15m)	8.0p(5.7p)	5.5p(5.0p)	01.02.99	04 01 99

1.74m(1.15m) 8.0p(5.7p) 5.50(5.00) (F) - Float (I) - Interim (ii) - Quarterly (SP) - Spit Period (N) - Nine Months "Current and previous Rgs. are operating profit

TENDER OFFER BY UK ESTATES PLC

(the "Company") to repurchase through stockbrokers Astaire & Partners Limited by means of a fixed price tender offer, up to 1.157,497 ordinary shares of 10p each ("Ordinary Shares") in the Company (the "Tender Offer").

The Tender Offer is open to shareholders on the Company's register at the close of business on Friday 13 November 1998 ("Qualifying Shareholders"), and will close at 3.00pm on Tuesday 24 November 1998.

ary of terms and conditions of the Tender Offer

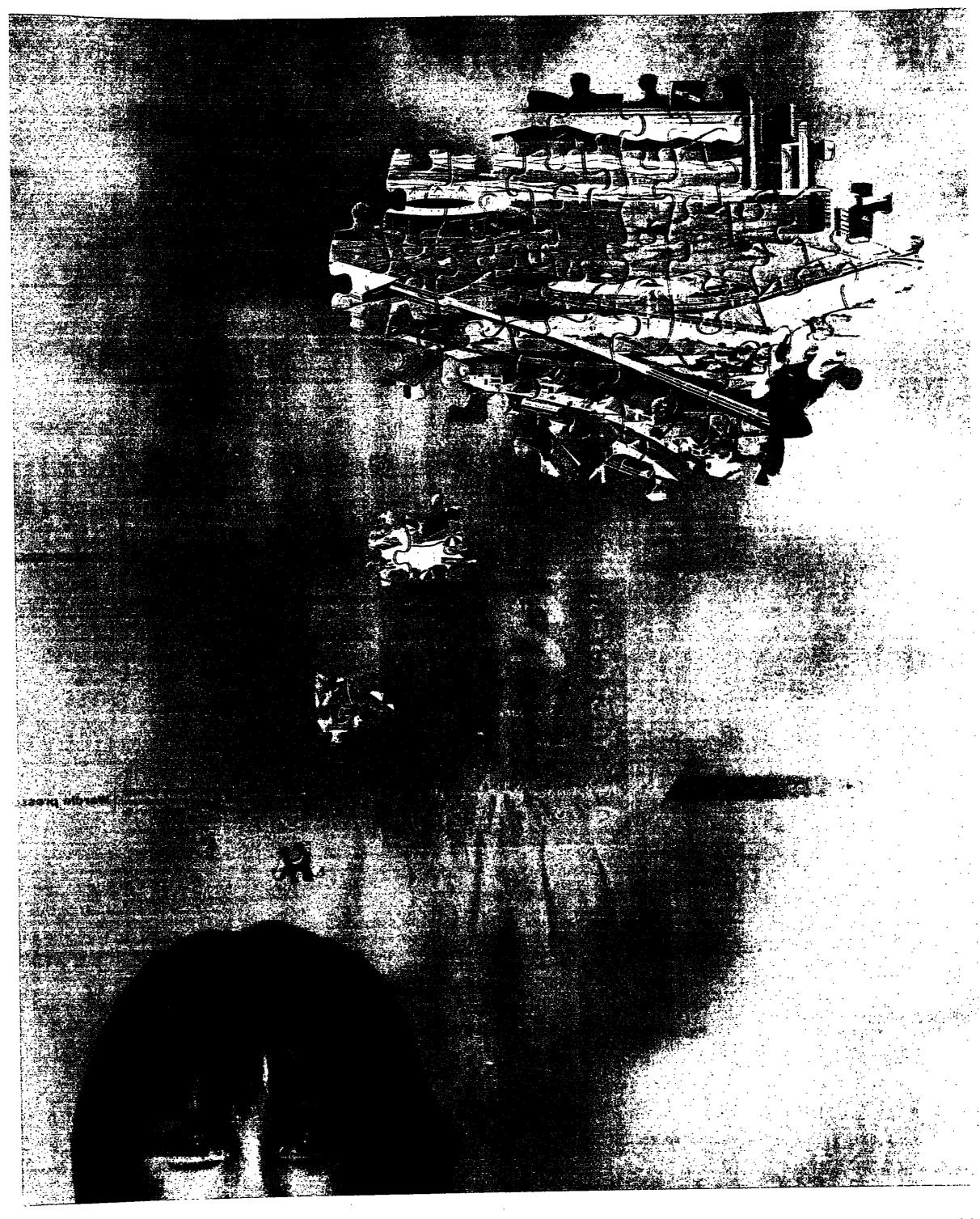
Under the Tender Offer, each Qualifying Shareholder is invited to sell to the Company up to the first 2.836 per cent of their holding of Ordinary Shares. To the extent that Qualifying Shareholders tender less than their sale entitlements of 2.836 per cent, Astaire & Partners Limited will purchase additional Ordinary Shares from those Qualifying Shareholders who have tendered in excess of 2.836 per cent of their holdings of Ordinary Shares. The additional purchases from Qualifying Shareholders who tender in excess of 2.836 per cent of their holding of Ordinary Shares will be made on a basis pro rata to the aggregate excess number of Ordinary Shares which Qualifying Shareholders have indicated they wish to sell in their respective tender offer forms ("Offer Forms").

The Tender Offer is conditional on the receipt of tenders in respect of 40,808 Ordinary Shares (representing 1% of the ordinary share capital of the Company), If tenders for less than that number of Ordinary Shares are received, the Tender Offer will be null and void. Subject to the aforementioned, the Tender Offer is irrevocable.

This is a summary of the terms and conditions of the Tender Offer, full details of which are contained in the circular to shareholders of the Company dated 17 November 1998 (the "Circular") and the accompanying announcement ("Announcement") and Offer Forms.

Procedure for tendering

The Circular together with copies of the Announcement and the Offer Form have been posted by the Company to registered holders of Ordinary Shares. Qualitying Shareholders wishing to tender Ordinary Shares should lodge their duly completed Offer Forms together with their share certificates and/or other documents of title by post with Lloyds Bank Registrars, The Causeway, Worthing, West Sussey, BN99 60A so as to arrive not later than 3.00pm on Tuesday 24 November 1998. Copies of the Circular may be obtained from Lloyds Bank Registrars at the above address.



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Andels winder

improves the quality of people's lives.

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stations lead the way in energy-efficiency. Some even use waste as fuel.

Thanks to Vivendi companies, transport systems in cities across Europe are better planned and more cost-effective.

Every year, our construction companies manage over 100,000 sites around the world. Recent projects include the Stade de France on the outskirts of Paris, Cairo's new rapid transit system and the Vasco da Gama bridge in Lisbon.

We have also become a major player in the field comes first, success soon follows.

COMMITTED TO MEETING YOUR LIFE'S EVER-CHANGING NEEDS.

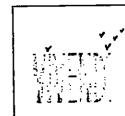
of communications, providing easy access to mobile phone networks, the Internet and digital media.

Reading this, you might deduce that such wide-ranging activities are commensurate with considerable financial growth.

And you'd be right.

Vivendi is one of Europe's largest companies, with an annual turnover approaching £21 billion.

All things considered, it seems that when the customer comes first, success soon follows.



www.vivendi.com

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Hard-pressed TI in upbeat mood

TI, ONE of the nation's leading but hard-pressed engineers, produced an upbeat trading statement just as Lehman Brothers, the investment house, made cautious noises about the engineering sector in general and TI in particular.

The shares were the best performing in the mid-cap index, gaining nearly 8.5 per cent to 254.75p. They have been much higher, touching 690p last year, their low point this year was 325p.

The group told analysts trading was "ahead of last year and in line with consensus forecasts". The market is looking for year's profits around £241m, which would compare with £220.6m last time

Lehman's Colin Crook cut his TI estimate from £239m to £212m. The 11 per cent reduction is in line with downgradings be made for most leading engineering groups. Lehman also downgraded

Fairey, by 6 per cent to £31.9m and by 22 per cent to £30.9m; FKI's year's figure (interim results are due tomorrow) from £155,2m to £147.6m and IMI from £180m to £153m.

MARKET REPORT



PAIN

to £482m; Lucas Varity 15 per cent to £349m and Siebe mudged marginally down to £531m. British Steel's expected gloomy statement added to the engineering unease. The steel giant's shares fell 7.5p to 101p. BTR, once a conglomerate now an engineer, hardened 1p to 106p ahead of an analysts' meeting

In thin trading Footsie, inspired by hopes of yet lower US interest rates, rose 47.3 points to 5.510.5p; at GKN was lowered by 9 per cent one time it was up 77.5. Supporting

Vodafone was the best perform-

ing Footsie constituent, jumping 41.5p to 851.5p. Interim results are due today. The market is looking for more than £400m against £298m. A sharp increase in the flotation price of its Greek off-shoot, where it has

55 per cent, also filtered through. Cable & Wireless was active, up 22.5p to 687.5p, on its European expansion drive, which aims at doubling income from corporate customers each year for the next five.

British American Tobacco puffed another 14.5p higher to 530p on growing confidence US litigation will be less damaging than at one time seemed likely. National Power fell 8p to 541p

as its decision to delay its interim results, due tomorrow, generated confusion. Most suspect the week's postponement is to allow NP to put the final touches to a deal. It could be selling coal-fired generators or mounting a take over bid for an electricity distributor, London Electricity could be its target.

of a beer price war. Tesco fell 7p to 171.5p and J Sainsbury 20p to 510p. The beerage was also flat with

Continental takeover could be

Marston Thompson & Evershed, the Pedigree brewer, ended

shares made modest headway; 5.75p to 157p, in part reflecting sto-Government stocks were also firm, ries its chief executive, Allan Leighton, could join Marks & Spencer, unchanged at 448p as its search for a new chief executive continued. But the supermarket chains were also ruffled by stories

> BEAUFORT, with interests spreading from management to sports sponsorship and marketing consultancies. produced interim profits of £218,000 against £68,000 for the whole of last year. Profits for this year could emerge at around £500,000. With £1.3m in the bank, the group is back on the acquisition trail and a

0.5p to 2p; they have been 4.5p.

completed soon. The shares rose

Bass off 21.5p to 760.5p.

17p weaker at 226.5p after touching 210.5p. It rolled out flat interim figures and is pressing ahead with securitising most of its tenanted pubs. It said the Wolverhampton & Dudley Breweries, which last week expressed an interest in merging, has

NO SALLMAMILASON

share price, pence

BTR

vet to make an approach. Elsewhere on the bid front Abacus Recruitment, recently the subject of an aborted US bid, jumped 42.5p to 177.5p; it is the first take over target for Michael Ashcroft's new vehicle, Carlisle. Barbican Heathcare rose 20.5p

to 80.5p as a hidder hovered and Dagenham Motors accelerated 18.50 ACTIVITY IN Tate & Lyle suggests corporate action could be near. The shares jumped 28.75p (after 37p) to 378.75p in admittedly moderate trading

T&L has suddenly become 'a highly volatile share, with price gyrations much more significant than in the past. The shares are well below their 580p peak and if a takeover narauder is bovering he is unlikely to wait much longer. The price was 288p last month.

to 143.5p on the prospect of a bid on 8p to 262.5p; HSBC reckons the from the newly created Ford/Jarprice should b. 360p. dine Matheson joint venture.

Unigate's disappointing performance lowered the shares 21.5p to SEAQ TRADES: 63,865 502p and took the edge off of other

down 7.5p to 167.5p.

Tomkins, the buns to guns conglomerate, fell 5.5p to 273p; a presentation is due tomorrow, but the prospect of arms litigation in the US is unsettling sentiment. Unilever. taking analysts to see its Bravilian

operations, hardened 9p to 639p. Phytopharm, raising £2.2m through a placing at 145p, shaded to 149.5p. Bensons Crisps was cut 1p to 33.5p. As the market closed it said it had arranged a sale and teaseback of its factory at Kirkham, Lancashire, for £6.2m. The cash will be used to pay off the mortgage on the property, developing the business and continuing share buy backs.

GR jumped 17.5p to 60p. The group runs a health farm and sells sheepskin shoes; it is valued at £5.6m and the last trade in its

shares was in July. Cranswick, the food group, put

SEAO VOLUME: 672 million

Emap the genuine article Lord Harris buys back a

HOW WELL will Emap weather a downturn? In theory, the magazines to radio outfit should be highvulnerable to an economic

This is not just because hormonally-charged teenagers will have less pocket money to spend on glossy magazines such as FHM or Elle. Emap is mainly vulnerable because advertising will account for about 40 per cent of revenues this year. Given its high fixed cost base, any decline in spending would quickly feed through into lower profits.

However, Kevin Hand believes the gloom is overdone. Presenting his first set of interim results yesterday, Emap's new chief executive sounded upbeat. True, advertising spending in the UK is showing signs of slowing. But revenues in France -27 per cent of the total in the half to September - are strong. And advertising on radio, a more mature medium than during the last recession, should also hold up.

Indeed, Mr Hand thinks a slowdown could create opportunities by forcing some of the weaker titles to sell out or close down. Expansion plans are also on track: Project J, a new high-frequency entertainment title, is due for launch in the UK in the spring. And Emap promises at least one launch in France - possibly a local version of FHM - in the next six months.

Further out, there is the possibility of transferring some of Emap's more successful titles into the US. The group's radio division, which is ining against ownership rules in

INVESTMENT

EDITED BY PETER THAL LARSEN

			LANCE toe 1081p (
Trading record	1996 Full	1997 year to 31 M	1998 andı ———	1997 Half year I	1 998
Ramover (Em)	705	·=`768	773	376	410
Pre-tax profits (£m)		235	142	47.4	66.4
: Earnings per share (p)	24.5	80.4	45.7	12.2	21.0
Dividends per share (p	11.2	13.0	15.0	5.0	5.7
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the UK, could expand into France. City's verdict on The embryonic Internet ventures

Unigate is harsh the next year or so. And with relatively low gearing, Emap could always spend £500m or so on an

vesterday on profit-taking, but analysts are largely sticking with fullyear profit forecasts - before a goodwill write-off and the proceeds of the sale of Red Dragon FM - of £161m. Given its solid record and prospects. Emap fully deserves its forward earnings multiple of 21. A

THE PAST few months have not been good for Unigate. The dairy and fresh foods group backed away from Emap shares dipped 29p to 1,081p acquiring Hillsdown Holdings in the spring causing the shares to tumble from their pumped-up peak of 738p. Its Malton pig processing business has been struggling against an over-supplied market and the evaporation of orders from Russia.

> On top of that its juices business has been hammered by a new Procter & Gamble rival called Sunny Delight

while sales of margarine spreads have started to slide for reasons the management cannot fathom. With all this is mind it was perhaps no surprise that the company warned of a "pause

in growth" this year But the decline in Unigate's share price might be a little harsh. It is true that the weakness in consumer spending will affect the group. And the City is also unhappy about the company's reluctance to disclose its plans for its £167m cash pae.

But imagine how much worse it would have been if Unigate had gone ahead with the Hillsdown deal at what proved to be the peak of the market. Also, the group remains in decent shape.

Though half year profits were flat at £67.5m and the fresh foods division was dragged down by the Malton performance, the contributions from the dairy business and the Wincanton distribution division increased by 7 per cent and 17 per cent respectively.

The dairy unit has won new business from Tesco since the half year fit from a downturn when infore com panies are inclined to contract out their logistics requirements. With lower costs at Malton after the expiry of an uneconomic contract with farmpecting full year profits of £146m, before exceptionals. That puts the shares - down 21.5p at 502p yesterday - on a forward multiple of 11.

The immediate outlook is unexciting, particularly with no news on the cash pile, but at these levels Unigate is one to tuck away.

piece of his own history

AMONG THE 29 shops which Lord Harris of Peckham bought back from Carpetland yesterday was the second shop he ever worked in, in Penge, with his father Charles Harris, back in 1961.

Lord Harris firmly denies that he bought the shops yesterday for sentimental reasons, although two were old Harris stores from his Harris Queensway days which were sold by him in the 1980s. He does, however, admit that when the deal went through on Sunday night he turned to his wife and said: "At last I've got ny name back."

Lord Harris still owns the first shop in Penge, South-east London, in which he worked with his father, in 1957. "He died at the age of 37, and I took over the business at 15."

Of the shops he acquired yesterday, 19 were Carpetland and half a dozen were Allied stores "which we were really pleased to get hold of,"

There is one final sentimental link. "I did my very first takeover in 1972 of Keith Royal, one of the Allied shops we bought back."

ers, Henderson Crosthwaite is ex- PETER DE SAVARY is currently in South Carolina developing another of his Carnegie Club luxury hotels at a place called Cherokee Plantation, just outside the Old South coastal city of Charleston.

Mr de Savary will return to the UK next Monday for a slightly less glamorous meeting - with Penwith

PEOPLE AND BUSINESS

By John WILLCOCK

District Council in Cornwall. The cigar-chomping entrepreneur will be seeking planning permission to turn the site of the Penzance Dry Dock & Engineering Company into a hol-

Mr de Savary bought the ship repair company three years ago. Most of its 45 staff were laid off recently because of the loss of a £1,5m contract. Now its fate depends on three other companies that are bidding for it as a going concern. If the best bid fails to satisfy Mr de Savary, he intends to turn the yard managing director, Mike Thomas.

More than 90 per cent of the yard's work is commercial, renovating dredgers and trawlers up to 75 metres in length. It also does specialist structural steelwork, and built the central section of the cocoon-like Media Centre stand at Lord's Cricket Ground in London.

Back in Penzance, Mr Thomas says that "we've kept on half a dozen men on a care and maintenance basis to keep the company

By the end of the week he will have learnt whether the dry dock is to follow Skybo Castle in Scotland into Mr de Savary's roster of luxu-

MARTIN GRANT has made his first senior appointments since he toob over as chief executive of Vaux Group in June with the brief of turning the business from a breweries company into a modern leisure

The hotels, pub and leisure company has recruited David Flowers from Rank to be property and development director, and Richard Hunt comes in from Allied Domecq, Mr Grant's old company, to be managing director of Vaux's Pub Division. David Wilde moves over from retail director to become group purchasing director.

Mr Grant says this is "the first stage of reshaping the company". into a hotel, according to the yard's Two months ago he put the two original breweries at Sunderland and Sheffield up for sale along with 350 pub tenancies

One scion of the Nicholson family which founded Vaux in 1837. Frank Nicholson, is still managing director of the breweries division. while Paul Nicholson is chairman Frank Nicholson is leading an MBO bid for the breweries.

Vaux's advisers, Noble Grossard and BT Alex.Brown, expect to announce the winning bidder for the brewer business in mid-December.

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SPORT

Family dominate Hamed struggle

Frank Warren and Brendan Ingle face an uphill fight in the battle to control the future of Naseem Hamed. By Glyn Leach

'We want a larger share.

As Naz has to take all

the money should be

more in Naz's favour'

AS THE power struggle surrounding solve their situations fast, while Naseem Hamed approaches its acrimonious conclusion, the words to squabble over. spoken by the World Boxing Organisation champion's older brother. Nabeel, at the end of last year have taken on a prophetic tone. In an interview with the author Nick and Frank Warren, the men who re-Pitt for the book The Paddy and the Prince, 28-year-old Nabeel, then the manager of his brother's fan club, said: "A lot of people laugh when they hear we're building an

empire but it's better for us if they

Nabeel and the eldest Hamed brother. 29-year-old Riath (until recently Hamed's business manager), have long ceased being a joke to their rivals. Respectively the promotions director and managing director ("we've given ourselves new job titles," said Riath) of Prince Naseem Enterprises - offshore bank accounts and all - the brothers have become increasingly influential, to the point where, now, total autonomy is within their grasp.

Plainly, changes need to be made. The fighter's career hit an all-time low at the end of last month in At-

victory over Wayne McCullough has been reported extengeneral consen- the risks and all the flak, the bulk of the media is that the champion and his bandwagon have gone off the

rails. Where, one gets the impres- discovered and nurtured. sion, journalism would be quite

happy to let it stay and rot. The bulk of the criticism for the unedifying events in the seedy East Coast gambling centre has been levelled at Hamed himself. But the growing proliferation of factions seeking to control the champion created a tension that could only result in an explosion. Something had to give, and it was Hamed, who for so long had represented the calm at the eye of the storm that has grown proportionately with his wealth, now estimated to be in the region of £15m.

This remarkably self-possessed young man had, somehow, appeared able to operate comfortably within to the promoter, whose much-pubthe paranoid environment created by the warring parties. But in At-ner, Don King, stems directly from lantic City, for the first time in 31 undefeated fights. Hamed's level of performance suffered. Although winning comfortably against Mc-Cullough, Hamed's showing was widely slated as his worst ever.

The backstage battles had led the champion to the crossroads; defeat - and all its repercussions - was becoming a distinct possibility for the world's dominant featherweight. And those who sought to control his career realised that they had to rethere was still a career left for them

Within the next two weeks, the power struggle will be decided and the Hamed family axis are favourites to finish in front of Brendan Ingle spectively taught and promoted Naseem into a position of worldwide

Warren's promotional contract with Hamed has expired, bringing speculation that his five-year association with the 24-year-old boxer, is about to end. Manager/trainer Ingle has already been marginalised following unflattering revelations about the fighter in Pitt's book.

Hamed is due to return from holiday in Florida within the next few days and, when Riath returns from his own break in Cyprus next week, negotiations are set to take place with Warren, whose uncharacteristic "no comment" stance suggests that he fears the worst.

Ingle, whose role has been systematically eroded since the Hamed family first became involved in Naseem's career four years ago, has lantic City. The terrible atmosphere announced that his loyalty lies with surrounding Hamed's dour points Warren and not the boxer through whom he has

become a millionaire. Hamed splits with Warren, he the trainer who recently has been referred to as a "Judas" by the fighter he

Warren's association with Hamed began in 1994, at a time when Nabeel Hamed worked as a car mechanic and Riath was a community liaison officer in Sheffield. The fighter had previously been promoted by Barry Hearn and then Mickey Duff, but it was under Warren that Hamed's career took off; within a year, a prospect earning £25,000 per fight had turned into a world champion with purses in the £1m bracket. It was Warren who negotiated Hamed's £12m, sixfight deal with the American cable television network, Home Box Office.

Losing control of the jewel in his stable's crown would be a bitter blow licised legal war with his former part-Warren's efforts to further Hamed's career in the United States. Warren felt that HBO were more able than King's exclusive TV outlet, Showtime, to "move" Hamed. And the evidence suggests he was correct. Indeed, it is difficult to spot where Warren may have made a wrong move in guiding Hamed's career.

But blood is thicker than water and Hamed the fighter has stated many times that the only people he trusts are his family. "Because the

promotions make so much money, we ren out of loyalty and respect. But we want a larger share," said Riath. "As Naz has to take all the risks and all the flak, the money should be more Naz has done it all by himself, but he is the one who takes all the risks and that should be reflected." As outsiders, boxing powerbrokers with limited experience gained

sale distrust of the Hamed clan. And any blame that was not heaped upon their brother's shoulders for the goings-on in Atlantic City was, by and large, apportioned to them. "I know that in everyone's eyes we're playing a very dangerous game, but we have to act in Naz's best interests," said Riath. "And after Atlantic City we realise exact-

in only four years, there is a whole-

ly what we're up against. We're challenging the status quo, and there are people - including a large proportion of the media, who are hell-bent on protecting it. I believe that the press coverage of my brother's last fight was completely orchestrated, 100 per cent.
"But the time has come for peo-

ple to stop pointing the finger and blaming all and sundry for what went on. We must move on, for Naz's sake. We still want to work with Mr War-

now have no contractual relationship with any promoter in the world. We now have all the worldwide rights to in Naz's favour. We're not saying that my brother's career and we don't see why Naz should not be getting the bulk of the financial rewards."

Whether Warren will be happy with the share he is likely to be offered remains to be seen, but the fact remains that having even one finger in the lucrative Hamed pie beats having none at all. Ingle has already faced this choice; relegated to the role of "corner adviser" for the Mc-Cullough fight, where his advice was steadfastly and studiously ignored, Ingle appears to have accepted what has been offered for the sake of the careers of his sons, John and Dominic, who are now installed as Hamed's official trainers.

As he walked alone on the Atlantic City Boardwalk, Ingle had the forlorn look of a man who has created a monster Every action, every word or gesture, seemed to suggest he was asking himself: "Is it worth the hassle." And at some time that thought that must have crossed the minds of everyone involved in this sorry saga, family or otherwise. Glyn Leach is the editor of Boxing Monthly





AMERICAN FOOTBALL

BY NICK HALLING

IN THE 33-year history of the Atlanta Falcons, there has been little cause for celebration. They have won just one divisional title, back in 1980, and have never been a serious Super Bowl contender: On Sunday, however. the Falcons served notice that their time as one of the league's perennial losers could be over following their convincing 31-19 triumph over the San Francisco 49ers.

The win, their eighth of the year. gives the Falcons leadership of the NFC Western division, but perhaps more importantly confirms that the team's recent good run is no accident. The 49ers had won 11 of the last 13 meetings between the two sides, but they never held a lead in the game and apart from a brief late scare, the Falcons were always in control.

"We not only wanted to win this game, we wanted to send a statement to the rest of the league, let everyone know we are for real," said the Falcons linebacker Jessie Tuggle. With a relatively easy schedule to come, the Falcons are not only for real, they have become realistic Super Bowl contenders.

Chris Chandler, the Falcons' quarterback, enjoyed an efficient outing. supported by 100 rushing yards and two touchdowns from running back Jamal Anderson. The key to the victory, however, was Atlanta's opportunistic defence, which forced two crucial turnovers in the second half.

Ray Buchanan intercepted a pass from Steve Young, the 49ers' quarterback, returning it to the oneyard line and setting up Anderson's second scoring run. Then, on San Francisco's next possession, Young fumbled, with the ball eventually being recovered in the end zone by Tuggle for another touchdown.

There were some anxious moments as Young fired long touchdown passes to Terrell Owens and Jerry Rice to reduce the deficit to five points, but Chandler's 78-yard strike to Terence Mathis calmed the nerves and confirmed Atlanta's 15th win in their last 18 games.

The Oakland Raiders also look set for the play-offs following their hardearned 20-17 victory over the Seattle Seahawks. Greg Davis won the game on a 37-yard field goal with just 21 seconds remaining, but the most significant contribution came from Desmond Howard, who returned a punt for 63 yards for a touchdown late in the first half.

It was Howard's first touchdown since scoring for the Green Bay Packers against the New England Patriots in the Super Bowl two seasons ago, a performance which earned him Most Valuable Player honours. Following that game, he was awarded a four-year, \$6m (£3.6m) deal by the Raiders, but had done little to justify the investment in the interim. -It's probably been the most frustrating time of my life," he admitted, "But you realise this game is full of peaks and valleys. You have to keep plugging away and your just due will come."

No problems for the Packers, who disposed of New York Giants 37-3. The game will be remembered only by Brett Favre, the Packers quarterback, who threw his 200th touchdown, passing the 25,000 career passing mark along the way. Running back Darick Holmes became the first Packer this season to rush

for more than 100 yards in a game. Things are starting to look brighter for Peyton Manning, the Indianapolis Colts quarterback. Manning led his team to a 24-23 win over the New York Jets when he threw a 14-yard pass to Marcus Pollard with 24 seconds remaining.

NFL results, Digest, page 31



Henry worked wonders with material already to hand

nothing else that last week, in relaimaginable introduction to Wales' tion to Wales' chances against South Africa, I confined myself to the reflection that Graham Henry must Cup - that, far from learning from wish he had as great resources at his disposal as Clive Woodward. I think this must still be so, despite Wales' colossal performance at Wembley.

But if I had gone into the predictions husiness more wholeheartedly I should not have written that Wales would be drawing or in the lead until 10 minutes before full-time - or that their losing margin would be only eight points. I should have said that 2d points would be a moral victory and 30 points respectable, in view of the South Africans' 83 points margin six months ago and their position as the leading side in the world. I should have gone on to write that

IT WAS a matter of good luck and the Wembley match was the worst preparations for both the Five Nations' Championship and the World an accomplished opposition, they ran the risk of becoming, in the language of my native land, donto, which means slightly more than "daunted", carrying as it does overtones of helplessness, depression and defeat.

And I should have been wrong. A good deal can happen between now and February, when the Five Nations begins. But if the bookmakers persist in their normal practice of making France or England favourites (England are consistently poor value) and Wales third at generous odds, they may be worth what the bookies like to call an investment. They may also perform better

than expected on their home ground in the World Cup, always assuming that the stadium is ready on time. An architect friend of mine, who has nothing to do with the project, but happened to be in Cardiff the other day, told me the schedule was clearly very tight.

It is worth noting that Henry worked his wonders with material which was already to hand and had mostly, indeed, been around the place a long time. The one complete newcomer was the New Zealander Shane Howarth, he of the convenient granny, who is about as Welsh as my Islington-born pussycat. But I do not want to spoil the party, not at this stage anyway. Apart from one initial handling error, he had a marvellous The only other two new faces



ALAN WATKINS

were Chris Wyatt and the already capped Chris Anthony, the latter a substitute for the injured David Young. Young will presumably return in due course, as will Allan Bateman in the centre, well though their replacements, respectively

To the aficionado, indeed, the revelation was how well the front row stood up to the formidable South African trio. The penalty try awarded against them did not seem to me to be the correct legal consequence of the offence - if offence there was. It was an eccentric award even by the standards of a punishment that has grown quite out of control. The Welsh trio appeared to be openly disengaging and asking for a new scrum. The referee could simply have awarded one and allowed the

But to those who gain their impressions from more obvious sources the revelation was the Quinnell brothers. To me, however, it was

game to continue.

Wigan and Craig left school, I have been urging successive selectors to include them both in any Welsh pack that is put on the field with any

serious hope of winning a match. I told them, but they wouldn't listen. I was informed that I did not understand the finer points of modern forward play.

They were, or so I was instructed, too fat, not fit enough. Scott could operate sporadically, in bursts. He did not give 100 per cent for the whole of a match. Craig had similar tendencies, and laboured under the additional disadvantage of not understanding the line-out properly. I had seen them play for Richmond, had I?

Ah well, England and France, to not a revelation at all. For years now, say nothing of South Africa and ed the freedom of Cardiff.

Anthony and Mark Taylor, played on ever since Scott returned from New Zealand. were different from Newcastle and Saracens.

Today I feel vindicated: likewise in my belief in Colin Charvis. Contrary to what I read somewhere, he was not a previously insignificant or unknown player. He first came to prominence playing for Wales on the open side, before Gwyn Jones' tragic injury but when Jones was nevertheless unavailable. He was unlucky not to go to South Africa with the

Henry had the wit to play him at No 6, clearly his best position, and to produce a pack which contrived not only to be heavier than the South Africans' but also to possess, in Martyn Williams, a genuine No 7. Whatever happens next, Graham Henry has done enough to be award-

Tuesday 17 November 1998

McCoy sent back to school Stamina doubts over speedy Cyfor Malta

DURING THE last few years of BY GREG WOOD his formal education, Tony McCoy was a persistent truant, more interested in riding out horses at a local racing stable than he was in listening to teachers. A different attitude will be required some time in the next couple of weeks, though, thanks to an unexpected ruling by the Jockey Club's Disciplinary Committee yesterday evening. As well as banning McCoy for 18 days, four of which are suspended, for a series of whip offences stretching back to 4 April, the committee decided that it would be a good idea for the champion National Hunt jockey, reckoned by many to be the finest the sport has seen, to go

back to riding school. Imagine Tony Adams being ordered to spend a day training with Arsenal Schoolboys to brush up on his tackling and you have a rough idea of what McCoy is being asked to do. At some point during his suspension, which starts on Thursday and ends a fortnight on Saturday, he will attend the British Racing School at Newmarket, where raw apprentices are taught the basics of race-riding. There, McCoy will ride a mechanical horse while his style and whip action are filmed. He will then study the film in the company of a senior instructor, authorities to punish McCoy for who will discuss with McCoy how he can ensure that he

uses his whip in accordance with the Jockey Club's rules. sistance if he is going to ride within the guidelines," Malcolm Wallace, the Club's director of regulation, said after win a little, little race", and that yesterday's hearing at Port- he did not think he had done man Square. "By and large, he's anything wrong. Another couridden the vast majority of his ple of days' reflection seemed winners within the rules, but to change his mind, though, for the problem is his enthusiasm to win. He hits his horses too front of the Disciplinary Comwithin our jockeys that horses

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Oriental Boy (Newton Abbot 3.30) NB: Dr Bones (Wetherby 2.40)

have to be hit hard and frequently to win races. We're trying to change that culture."

Wallace compared the concept to that of a top sportsman in another field who listens to the advice of his coach. Some punters, though, would argue that two successive riding championships are persuasive evidence that McCoy is doing perfectly well on his own. To members of this school of thought, yesterday's hearing no greater crime than trying harder than anyone else.

He himself said at Chel- not exactly gritted as he said it, tenham this weekend that the but neither was he smiling. When he added that "hopefully, whip offence which triggered his visit to Portman Square this will be the last time you'll "He clearly needs some as- yesterday - when riding Bam- see me at Portman Square for apour to victory in a claiming a while," on the other hand, he hurdle at Fontwell last week did so with feeling. was the result of him "trying to

after the last flight at Fontwell.

promised to be a very difficult

job for the stewards much eas-

ier, a fact which may have been

reflected in the relatively light

sentence he subsequently re-

ceived. Other jockeys have

been banned for up to 30 days

in similar circumstances. None

the less, McCoy will be un-

available for this weekend's

big meetings at Ascot and Ain-

tree, and more significantly

still, the Hennessy Gold Cup at

Newbury a week later, in which

he would have partnered one of

the favourites, Cyfor Malta. McCoy said little as he left

Portman Square yesterday evening though he did remark

School that "if it helps and keeps

This made what had

As he wandered off into central London, it marked a satisfactory end to what had seemed sure to be a damaging day for the Jockey Club. The authorities' problem is that they are trying to reconcile opinions on what exactly constitutes misuse no sooner had he sat himself in hard, and there is a culture mittee yesterday than he ad- of the whip which are beyond mitted to whipping Bamapour reconciliation. with "excessive frequency"

Many of the punters in an average betting shop care little for how often or hard a horse is hit so long as it wins. More casual observers, though, are appalled that jockeys should feel able - indeed, obliged - to inflict pain on horses which have already raced and jumped for two miles or more and are approaching exhaustion. In the circumstances, the

miles as they stand are as reasonable as any we are likely to get, and while McCoy has had trouble adjusting his riding style to fit them, other leading riders have not. Rather than trying too hard

on the track, McCoy perhaps needs to try harder to understand what is required before he gets on a horse. If that is the of his day-trip to the Racing outcome of yesterday's hearing, it will have been a good day's me from being suspended, I'm willing to do it." His teeth were work for all concerned.



Tony McCoy's vigorous riding style, seen here on Mr Mulligan in the Gold Cup, has brought an 18-day ban Don Abraham

FORM GUIDE

Random Harvest: A useful stayer who impressively beat Spring Gale and Master Boston at Market Rasen (Smif, sort) in October. He finished a good second to subsequent winner Share Options there on his last start. Blue triats he headed the run when fourth in a Pairyhouse handicap chase lest time (3m1), good to soft). He was a decent novice last year, winning a valuable race at Nass in Petruary

(3m1), good to soft). He was a decent novice last year, winning a valuable race at Nass in February
Sallyline: Well beaten by Forestal here on his latest start, four days after winning at Worcester (2m7), good). He fixes to front-run, but is not the most reliable of jumpers Dream Ride: Meets Ask Me Later on 18th better terms than when beaten 51 by him at Ulticoster on his last start (3m2), but if hat was over a year ago and he will probably need the run today.

Organ Recital: Hampered five out before staying on to be third to The Last Fing and Young Kanny here last time (3m1), soft). This came at a crucial stage in the race and he would have finished doset. He seems to be very leverity handicapped Ask Me Later: Won at Ketso (3m1), good to soft) on his return before possibly finding heavy ground too much of a test when well beaten there on his last start Prime Example: Having his first race since finishing third to Reals Like Gold at Ayr in January. He has a tendency to sulk if unable to dominate - a scenario which looks on the cards here
Marybe O'Grady: Won weak novice races at Wetherby and Newcastle tast sear, but was taked off an reappearance over hurdles and does no look good enough VERDICT; Random Harvest has done title wrong this season, but looks vul-

VERDICT: Random Harvest has done little wrong this season, but looks vul-nerable on top-weight and is worth opposing with ORGAN RECITAL. Owen Bren-rians gelding would have gone close in a good race here last time and his stable are very good at placing their horses. The dark horse in the race is Blue trieft, a winner in heavy ground last term who should have improved after his seasonal debut.

1	45	FRENCH BALLERINA NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D
J	·40	FRENCH BALLERINA NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) \$23,800 added 2m Penalty Value £3,281
_		
1	03-1P	REVERSE CHARGE (116) (G.A. Harter) G.A. Harter 6 11 5 F Lealing
2		ANOTHER TIME (F45) (D Sulvan) S Woods 6 11 C,
3	5	AWASH (87) (Allerton Recing (Cub) M Hammond 4 ti 0
4	PU1R/2	CASTLETOWN COUNT (23) (Abbots Sallord Park) M W Easterby 6 to 0 G Bradies
5	82	CLASSIC BLUES (17) (Yarm Ridgehouse Racing) T Carr 7 tt 0
a	-	COLLEGE DON (F825) (J Coupland) J Coupland 7 tt 0 X Abgusts (3
7	00	CURTAMSATCHOPWELL (12) (Durbarn Drapes Ltd.) T Easterby 4 Ti 0 A Dobble
8		FANCY A FORTUNE (7) (3 Tuer) E W Tuer 4 TI 0
9		FARCEUR DU MESNIL (FR) (F779) (French Experience) K Worgan 5 ti () A S Smith
10	men-	GENERAL ACADEMY (264) (Nrs M.E. Curtis) J Curtis 5 11 0
ñ		GENERAL HAVEN (339) (T W Heselbre) M Sowersby 5 ft 0
12	46.	HARDACRE (234) (Sr Smon Lycett Green) T Tate 4 TI 0
13	9774	LORD LAMB (F31) (D) (A Shenat & J Renton) Mrs M Reveloy 6 11 0 _Mr A Dempsoy (3
14	D.I	MCLLINSBURN (F1378) (Mrs N Murray) Mrs M Reveloy 7 11 0
ŝ		RANUE (F57) (C H Stevens) T Essierby 4 T D
16	00.00	SHANNON SHOON (7) [M's S Smith) Mis S Smith 6 ti 0
17	UPOSO	
		SMPLE DEALS (USA) (F28) J. Paris) N Trider 4 11 0
£		STILL FRIENDS (304) (E Ferrick) C Grant 5 tt 0
19		EAT YOUR PEAR (284) (Peter Beeton-Brown) R Bestimen 4 10 9 H Bestimen (3

1997. Cauther 4 10 9 S Taylor (5) 25-1 (M Barnes) 23 rati

FORM GUIDE FORM GUIDE

Reverse Charge: Easily won a Market Rasen meiden hurdle in July (2m1t, good to firm), but pulled up on his next outing there and is one to treat with caution Another Time: A very useful translicapper on the flat this summer, winning at Ascot and Lingfield. He acts on any ground and is an interesting recruit to hurdling Awash: Firished 5th after pulling too hard at Perth (2m, firm) on his hurdling debut Castletown Count: A winning point to pointer, who made an encouraging start over hurdles when 11 lengths second here (2m4t, soft) to Woodfield Gale. He may need a stemer test of starrine

Classic Blues: Started at 33-1 and almost sprang a surprise when second to Farfields Prince here last mouth (2m, good to soft). He may be most effective at this trip and should improve again.

Farfields Prince here last month (2m. good to soft). He may be most effective at this trip and should improve again College Don; Was a fair handicapper on the flat in 1995, but was pulsed up on his last outing in August '96 and he is odds-on to repeat the feat loday Curtainsatchopwell: Makes his hurding debut after running too freely on his last start at Haydock, but previously finished an encouraging seventh in a bumper here Pancy A Fortunet Has shown little on both starts over hurdles and is hard to fancy Panceur Du Mesnik: Finished second in a Listed race on the flat in France on his last start in 1996. Clearly had plently of ability at one time General Academys. Showed a glammar of form over hurdles last season including when prominent until after half-way at Huntingdon.
General Hayear: A winner time times on the flat, he put up a much improved effort when third to Hezard A Guess at Doncaster (2m. good) last December. Hardacre: Ran well in bumpers last year, notably when 5th to Little Red Spider and Rockcliffe Gossip at Bangor (2m.1), good to soft). He needs to settle but is capable of winning over hurdles.

and nocicine toosep at bangor (2011, 1900) to sort, the needs to settle but is capable of winning over hurdes. Land Lenth: Won three bumpers in '96/97' and also finished fourth to Anctic Camper in a valuable race at Punchestown. He has won at Haydock on the first hits sum-max, but reportedly suffered an injury when beaten in the Cesarevitch Modifications. Having his first run since being wall beaten at Wolverhampton in Feb-

Mollinabum: Having his first run eince being well besten at Wolverhampton in February 1995.
Rahvue: A fairly useful handicapper on the flat for Emie Weymes, he makes his debut over timber here and is one to watch in the betting ring.
Shunnon Shoon: Unseated his rider at the second at Huntingdon last week after being well held on his hundling debut at Sedgefield.
Simple Ideale: Had decent form on the flat in related, but has shown nothing as ar over here and other newcomers appeal more 5till Friends: Was prominent untit halfway on his only run in a Newcastie bumper

test Your Pear: Was not disgraced on her only start when 5th in a novices' hur-die at Casterick (2m, good), but has plenty of improvement to find VERDICT: The race can be trained down to just a handful with a serious chance. It is very hard to lock beyond LORD LAMB, a very good handicapper this summer. Although he was rigured on his test start, Mary Reveley is not one to take chances it a horse is not 100 per cent, Expect Improved runs from Hardacre and Ctasaic Blues, while useful flat performers Another Time and Farceur Du Mendiane with keeping and ever on.

DESPITE THE fact he has yet to win beyond two and threequarter miles, Cyfor Malta, the comfortable winner of the Murphy's Gold Cup Handicap Chase off a handicap mark of 150 over an extended two and a half miles at Cheltenham on Saturday, now disputes favouritism for the Hennessy Gold Cup Handicap Chase over an extended three and a quarter miles at Newbury on Saturday week Teeton Mill, the other joint favourite, looks a more solid proposition, being a ahead of his reappearance in toproven stayer who was most impressive when winning at Wincanton recently. Grey Shot was promoted in

the Champion Hurdle betting following Sunday's victory in the Murphy's Draughtflow Handicap Hurdle at ChelUPDATE

BY IAN DAVIES

tenham but, although he is progressive over timber, a twolength victory off a mark of just 136 leaves him needing to improve by another two stone if he is to trouble Istabraq. the Champion Hurdler.

Stanley have laid a bet of 225,000-£1,000 about Suny Bay for the Cheltenham Gold Cup morrow's Edward Hanmer Memorial Limited Handicap Chase at Haydock

FIRST NATIONAL BANK HANDICAP CHASE (Asont, Seturday): William Hill: 41 thee, 9-2 Dorsleavetheness, 5-1 Red Maraudet, 7-1 Chreft Song, 8-1 Hurncare Lamp, Ashwell Boy, Listen Thimy, Roleach Native, 12-1 Kuralda, The Land Agent, 14-1 Northern Starfight, 18-1 Skycab, 25-1 Hoh Warnor

HENNESSY GOLD	CUP	H'CAP	CHASE	(3m 2f 1	10yds)
jonne (Escentreight)	Coord	製取 性間	Lathrobje	Stanley	Total
Jealon Mill (May V Villams/Sstillb)	100-30	41	41	4-1	fi⊣
Cyfor Malta (M Pipe/Cat Ob)	_	5-1	41	41	5-1
Coome HBI (Nr.Jerens/11st23b)	8-1	10-1	8-1	9-1	<u> 81</u>
Server Towars (May M Playday/Tability)	14-1	14-1	14-1	Ç4	14-1
(he Grey Marik (it Fichenty/1928))	14-1	14-1	12-1	14-1	16-1
Base Doyle (M Monte(If)/Claf(3b)	12-1	16-1	121	16-1	14-1
Fullip (F Doumen(Ft)/10st1b)	16-1	18-1	16-1	16-1	<u>12-1</u>
Papillon († Watshijing/10st30s)	14-1	16-1	14.1	16-1	16-1
Sell By The Stars (H Daly/9s;735)	14-7	16-1	18-1	14-1	15-1
Sany Bay (S Stervood/12st)	14-1	#1	11.1	2-1	16-1
Call It A Day (D Netrolson) Tostifici	16-1	20-1	14-1	16-1	14-1
Eadipe (M Pipe/DatSite)	74-1	14-1	14-1	16-1	20-1
Richallery The Piects (N Henderson) The	1B) B1	16-1	14.1	15-1	20-1
Floe Toyone (Also A.J Perrett/Suella)	20-1	20-1	20-1	20-1	16-1
Matalan (M. Mataon-Daviso) 10:13(1)	14-7	15 -1	20-1	5 -1	161
Sportry Guile (C Parter/10sGb)	1B-7	74-1	20-1	16-1	25-1
The Tolerach (J Fanshama(Ast/fo)	20-1	20-1	16-1	19-1	16-1
Addington Boy (N Fichards) (1926)	16-1	25-1	25-1	20-1	20-1
Benjo (D Nicholson/10s1/16)	14-1	25-1	25-1	20-1	20-1
Beronet (C Nicholson/Estitle)	20-1	20-1	25-1	30-1	20-1
Challenger Du Luc (# PipertisSb)	15-1	20-1	14-1	30-1	25-1
Dom Samoural (M Pipel@str2fp)	16-1	25-1	20-1	25-1	25-1
Indian Tracker (M Fige 10st)	16-1	25-1		- 25-1	20-1
The Last Fling (Mrs S Smith 96/7b)	251	25-1	33-	35-1	20-1
Each-way a quarter	the colds,	olaces 1, 2, 3, 4	(Newbury, Statut)	ny 28 November)	

1999	CHAMPION	HURDI	LE (2m	110yds)	1
Horse (Trains)	Consi	Wm H	Latibrokes	Stanley	Total
Istatana (A P O Brien M)	2-1	74	7-4	2-1	7-4
Blowing Wind (M Pipe)	14-1	12-1	10-1	14-1	12:1
French Holly (F Muspily)	10-1	2 -1	15-1	12-1	10-1
Carey Shot () Balding)	14-1	16-1	72-1	12-1	141
l'so Supposito (R Ricera)	16-1	16-1	16-1	14-1	16-1
Zefarabad (D Nicholson)	16-1	20-1	20-1	16-1	16-1
Dato Star (J.M. Jellerson)	14-1	20-1	25-1	15-1	14-1
Lady Cricket (At Pipe)	20-1				33-1
Homadic (N Weadelri)	25-1	33-1		33-1	33-
Priches (M Pipe)	20-1	25-1	<u>ක</u> 1	33-1	Z .
Each-	way a quarter the colds, pl	aces 1, 2, 3 (C	heligrikan, Tues	day 16 Marchi	
					
1999 CHELT	ENHAM GOL	D CUP	CHASE	(3m 2f	110vds

1999 CHELTENHA	118 GOL		CHASE (3III Z	J 7 G 3 /
Horse (Namer)	Coral	WHI (4)	Ladbrokes	Stanley	Total
Portida Peseri (W Libusius) iri	5-1	41	5-1	7.2	94
See Mare Business (P Nichols)	8-1	7-1	8-1	8-1	8-1
Cyfor Malta (M Pipe)	10-1	10-1	7.4	5 1	10-1
Dorana Peide (Af Hourigaryiri)	12-1	10-1	10-1	12-1	12-
Estateligas (D Nichrison)	10-1	12-1	I D-1	2	10-
Boss Doyle (M Mozesh)	14-1	16-1	16-1	16-1	14
Surry Stey (\$ Sherwood)	20-1	20-1	20-1	16-1	20-
Unskilable Boxer (M Pipe)	20-1	14-1	14-1	15-1	15-
Cool Dawn (R Alnet)	20-1	25-1	15-1	20-1	25-
imperial Call (P Hurteyfri)	25-1	20-1	25-1	30-1	2

ULTS

RE	S
	_
LEIÇESTER	
cing: Holes Soft (Heavy petches); Chases Go	d
2.50: (2m 4f 10yda mares novice hicap hurdi	8)
. DUTCH DYANE A Maguire 7	-1
L Stray Harmony Goldstein 16 L Derk Romance C Meude 10	3
Viso rant: 4-1 Octavia Hill, 9-2 Moscow Mai	ш
-1 Caringtord Gale (Bih), 9-1 Memsahib Ole	5
eem (pulled up), Poplin, 12-1 Crazy Crusad 9th), 14-1 Cruz Santa (4th), Paris Fashio	n
0-1 Brancapeth Bells, 33-1 Calliops, 50-1 C.	ï
acioe Rose, Precious Island. 5 ran. 11, 1/4, 17, 1, sh-hd. (Wirmer bay filly i	
Section 12 15 15 10 February States and I february	~

Militar out of Double Dutch, trained by Gig-right at Lewes for Leonard Fuller, Tata: 5580; 5290, 5200, DF: \$7280, CSF; \$10696. Tricest: \$1047.75. 1.20: (2m saling hurde) 1. MARSH MARIGOLD...

ed rider).

3 ran. Nk, 3. /s. 12. (Winner brown filly by Tine's Pet out of Pulpe, trained by G Fierro at Hednestord for G Fierro. Tota: 25007; 5400. E260, 5570. DF: C1910. C57: 12593. NF: Liftle Risk. There was no bid for the winner. 1.50: (2m 7f 110yds handicap chase) 1. CHURCH LAW......T J Murphy 9-1

up), 20-1 Tiree Sants (5th), 33-1 Printing Penny (felt), 11 ran. 7, 1, 1½, 7, 28. (Wirner grey gelding by Sexton Blake out of Lagal Argument, Instinct by Mist L Taylor at Chipping Warden for her-self). Tota: E1280: £350, £310, £310 £5050. CSF: £5844. Thotaer, D#2020

2.50: (2m 1f novice chase)
1. RELKANDER _______D
2. Charming Giri _______J Cs
3. Riparius ______R G 3. Riparius — R Garritty 7-1 Also nsn: 9-4 Native Charm (unseated rid-en), 4-1 Planster (fell), 20-1 Boloft (4en), 23-1 Our Man Filn (6th), 50-1 The Ledy Scores Cur near Fay (1997). 3 ran. 10. 10 dat, 4, dat. (Winner buy golding by Reviden out of Arbo Ander, trained by Ms. J Pilman & Upper Lambount for Ms. Maureen Buckley). Totac CBO: \$2.10, \$1.10, \$2.20, DF: £8.50 CSF: £2.586.

3.20: (2m novice hurde)

2.30: 2m 4t tillyds handicap hurdie)

1. WORLD EXPRESS ______ D Salter 15-8

2. Molsum _______ W Marston 5-4 fav

3. Grabe Times ______ R Johnson 5-1

Also nat: 5-1 Yolal Joy (4th).

4 ran. 53. 9 %: Witner boy gelding by Jarearout of Eight Mile Rook, trained by B R Maman st Culterplon for The Dragistic
Parmarship Total 2330 DF 2270 CSS: 24-2

Jackpot: Not won; \$1,50126 carried forward
in Weitherby loday.

1.05: 1. POLAR FLIGHT (N Williamson) 7-4 for; 2. North Tyne 7-2; 3. Kerand 33-1, 13 ran. 11/h. 2. (Miss Venetia Williams. Herelord), Tota: 5220: 6100 5250 5630 DF: 9850 CSF 1.40: 1. SCAYO (M. Batchelor) 20-1; 2. Cheeky Charlie 7-1; 3. Kelly Mac 3-1 5 ran. 25 fav Reifles Rooser (4th). 10, 25. (D. C'Rien). Toke: 67260: 5540. 5270 DF: 65550. CSF.

PLUMPTON Going: Soft (Good to Soft back straight)

TOME: ET280: ISAU 1270 DF: 15550 CSF.
EM972
2.10: 1, ALPINE PANTHER (P. Niver) 4.7 fav;
2. Aubsen Boy 7-2 3. Sorthiere 25-1.5 ran.
8, 1%, Mrs M Reveley, Saltburn, Tote: 2160.
E140, E140 DF: E150, CSF: E272
2.40: 1, RIGHTSALOPRED (Mr P. Bul) 4-1.2
Mr Chataway 5-1; 3. Rahamine Melody 6-4
law, 6 ran. 5, dist, (Mss A Newton-Smith, Polegets) Tota: E590; E290, E190 DF: E2020 CSF:
E2000
3.10: 1, NV BOY (Mr N Fehily) 16-1; 2. Reflex Courier 100-30: 3. Meding 9-1 10 ran.
11-8 fav A B-Coe (unsembold rider), 14, 34 (C
Mern, Lambourn), Tota: E2630; E750, E140,
E290, OF; E4440, CSF: E8634
3.40: 1, HAL HOO YAROOM (N Williamson)
11-4; 2. Fort Knox 7-1; 3. Dick McCarthy 7-1
5 ran. 11-8 fav Glowing Path (Sh), 1, 12, (J)
Jenkins, Royston), Tota: E380; E230, E220,
DF: E880, CSF: E758.
Plecepot: E2800, Quadpot: £850.

WOLVERHAMPTON Going: Standard

1.00: 1. SEREN TEG (G Faskeren 2-1 tav.

2. Red Apollo 10-1; 3. Golden Biff (2-1 11 ran. 4, 4 (B Paling); Rote: C2-20: E140; £2-90

C60 UP: C006. CSF: £20.78

1.30: 1. DAVIS ROCK (T Sprake) 2-1 Eav. 2.

Roffley Spirmey 11-2: 3. Pegasus Bay 3-1

12 ran. 6. rik. (W Mail. Rote: £190; £180; £180;

C190 UP: £120; CSF: £102;

2.00: 1. \$220; CSF: £2007;

2.00: 1. 2-30: 1. QUIET VENTURE (R Lappin) 18-1; 2. Ziggy's Denter 11-2; 3. Ursa Mejor 25-1-13 ran. 9-2 | item Shejin 19: hd (18-mpis) Tote: 0:500; 0:340, 0:2:0, 0:700 DF. (0:300 GS) (0:505: 0:514, 10:035; 0:2:0) 2: 0:0030 GS; 0:551, 10:035; 0:300 GS; 0:551, 10:035; 0:300 GS; 0:300 GS affact 10-1, 2, Italian Symptomy 9-1; 2, Stu-4-1 by Be Warned (4th), 11/h, 1 (Mrs 1) Macauley, Tota: £590; £170; £230; £240; DF-£5500; CSF: £96.55 Tricast £545 is Trice; ta: £153190. te: £153190.
4.00: 1. C-HARRY (W Ryan) 14-1; 2. Salty Sehaviour 2-1 fav; 3. Arberdg 13-2 12 nan. 1/2. 1 (R Holinshead; Tota: £150; £240; £270; £380 DF; £2100 CSF; £293; £30: 1. DANCING CAVALLER (P M Curn) B-1; 2. Isabella Gerzaga; 5-2 3. If Principe 4-1 fav 12 ran. 5, 1/2. If Holinshead; Tota: £270; £230; £40; £160 DF; £4470 CSF; £180; £160; £270; £230; £40; £160 DF; £4470 CSF; £180; £16340; £160 DF; £4470 CSF; £180; £160; £160 DF; £4470 CSF; £180; £160; £160 DF; £16340; £160 DF; £160 DF; £16340; £160 DF; £16

*THE IND	EPEN	DENT
RACING:	SERV 261	
LIVE COMMENT WETHERBY	TARIES	RESULTS
NEWTON ABBOT	972	982
ALL COURS 0891 2	61 9	70
Calls cord 50p per primer, I	LS. Usl. Screen	00 St 16:24 -24

WETHERBY

1.10 Errigal 3.10 ORGAN RECITAL (nap) 1.40 Paddy's Return 2.10 Jelali 3.40 Hardacre

GOING: Good to Soft GOING: Good to Sort.

Left-hand over circur. Run-in of 200yds slightly uphal.

Course is NE of fown on 81224 near junction of ASS and A1. ADMISSION: Club £13 (accompanied under 16s free); Tattersalls £9; Course £3 (OAPs £2) or £10 per car with up to four adults. Accompanied under-16s free. CAR PARIX: Free. FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS
FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS
G Richards 19-62 (23.2%), D Nicholson 17-72 (23.6%), Mrs S Smith 15-93 (16.1%),
LEADING JOCKEYS: L Wyer 44-186 (26.6%), P Niven 33-148 (22.6%), A Dobbin 21-16 (18.3%), R Guest 17-60 (21.3%), A Maguire 17-86 (19.8%), P Carberry 14-84 (21.9%). S FAVOURITES: 191 446 (42.8%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Be Brave (visored, 2.10).

1.10 HENDERSON INSURANCE BROKERS HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,800 added 3YO 2m Penalty Value £2,945

D) £3,800 added 3YO 2m Penalty Value £2,945

DANGERMAN (P36) (S.I Curis) M W Easarby 10 2 R. Garrity
DISCO TEX (P35) (Mybark Racrof) M W Easarby 10 12 R. Garrity
ELEGANT FAN (USA) (P34) (Throughbed Corporation) W Storey 10 12 R. Guest
42 ERRICAL (FR) (14) (BF) (Ford Associated Racrof) D Nicholson 10 12 A. Maguire
AGO (F99) & J. Mengan) M W Easarby 10 12 E. Calleghan
MAJOR BALLARY (P3) (Moring Post Record) Mrs. S Branel 10 12 A. Thomston
MASTER TERN (USA) (F142) (Ars. J.J O'Nell) J.J (O'Nell 10 12 R. McGrafth
PANAMA HOUSE (F25) (F England) T Easarby 10 12 R. McGrafth
PANAMA HOUSE (F25) (F England) T Easarby 10 12 A. Thomston
SUGGEST (F18) (Mrs. M Tindale) W Storey 10 12 A. Thomston
SUGGEST (F18) (Mrs. M Tindale) W Storey 10 12 A. Thomston
BETTING: 7-4 Enrigal, 3-1 Panama House, 9-2 Master Tern, 6-1 Slip Venture, 7-1 Dangerman, 10-1
Mejor Ballaby, 20-1 Jago, Suggest, 33-1 others
1997. Lord Decord 3 10 9 R Thomston (3) 5-1 (T Easterby) 9 ran
FORTM GLILIOF

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Dangerman: Ran manity in sprints until landing a surprise win in a 'im handicap at Nottingham last month. Stable in form and could have a future over hundles Dispo Tex: Won a maiden handicap ('im 5f) at Hamilton in Juty and also 3rd at Red-car ('im 3f) that month. May need more than 2m over jumps. Elegant Fett: Modest form in 4 outings in maidens last season for Ctive Brittain at distances up to 'im 3f' Small for jumping, but stable does well with Flat cest-offs. Emigal: Ran twice over hundles in France before making a promising first appearance for his new yard at Cheltenfram last month. Runner-up to Edwarde at Warwick next firme and can make his generating.

Unplaced at 4 outlings on the Flat last season at up to 2m, Finished behind mate Disco Tro. (3rd) when last of 7 in a handicap thm 3ft at Cattered in India. Major Ballaby: First run for Irish-based Sue Bramali's yard. Seventh of 10 behind major balledy: First run for rish-based sub-gramally yard, severing or to pening Circulents at Leopardistown (im 44 heavy) this month Master Tern: French Import and 3rd of 20, bith hd and a rik, behind Wendor at St-Cloud fm (3yo heap) in June One to watch in the market Panama House: Quite consistent in handicaps around fm and appreciated the step up to 10f when winning at Doncaster (soft) last month. In a top jumping yard and should make the entitle series.

Slip Venture: Trained by Sean Woods last Flat season, he won a 9t race at Nottogham last month. From stable enjoying good run and should pick up an event Suggest: Won twice as a 2yo over 71 and ran 14 times last Flat season without suc-cess. Lifely to stay 2m, but has quite a tough task on his first run over jumps

VERIORT: French import Errigal, the only numer with previous jumping experience, is up against a few interesting newcomers. He was having his second outling in a week when numer-up to Edwards at Warwick a tortringht ago, so that race may have come a bit quick. Jordo O'Nell is empoying a good run and MASTER TERM, third in a valuable handicap at St-Cloud in June, could be a smart recruit to hurding.

1.40 COOLMORE STUD NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m 11 Penalty Value £3,444

-F24m	MASTER WOOD (17) (C) (R Robinson) C Grant 7 to 10 C McCormack (5)
133-2	PADDY'S RETURN (17) (D) (BF) (F CDornell) F Murphy 6 11 0
	SCOTTON GREEN (17) (C) (D) (Scotton Developments) T Easterby 7 ft 0 L Wyer
	YELAPA PRINCE (212) IF Kirby F Nirby 7 ft 0
	CHIEF CHIPPIE (11) (The 49 Partnersho) W Kerro 5 to 12 A Dobble 8
	SISTER GALE (218) (B Van Praech) Mrs S Smith 6 10 9 G F Ryan (3)
	- 6 declared -

BETTING: 8-11 Paddy's Return, 9-4 Scotton Green, 4-1 Master Wood, 25-1 Sister Gale, 50-1 Chief Chloria 100-1 Velace Prince Chippie, 100-1 Yelepa Prince 1997 Fores: Nory 6 tt 0 A Maguro 4-7 for (D Nicholson) 6 ran FORM GUIDE

Mayler Wood: Won a nonce chose (2m 4f) lest month and then survived metales when railying from 2 out to win a nonces handcap here next time from Scotton Green (now 16th better off for a lengths) Paddy's Return: Top class hunder who started odds-on on his chasing debut at Ascot (2m 3f) last month but linished 2nd to My Warner Jumped safety e

this, the wall be more suitable. Scotton Green: Rain as if outing was needed when 4 length second to Master Wood here last month. Held every chance four out and has weight advantage this time. Yellipa Philosi: First run for new yard and poor form in Ireland. Has not run since putting up at the 4th at Listiuwell in April. Chilef Chlippie: Dain won over hundles, No form in 3 novice chases the season and was beaten a distance whon 3rd of 4 finishers at Herham (3m 1), heavy) last time. Siteld Chile Reproduction when sites associated for the the finished. And then be for the her finished. Sister Galo: Pont-to-point winner last season. Finished 2nd (btn sh hd) on her final outing at Aldington in April and though in a good yard has a tough introduction VERDICT: PADDY'S RETURN was caught out by front-running My Warner over an madequate 2m 31 at Ascot last time, but will be more at home over this trip.

2.10 SPINAL RESEARCH TRUST CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP HURDLE (E) £3,000 2m 4f 110yds £2,408

1	342213	CANTON VENTURE (42) (0) (Or Frenk S B Chec) S Woods 8 Ti 11	Ç
2	12254	DAN DE MAN (192) (D J Poulter Partnership) Mass L Skidal 7 10 8	Ċ
3	0025-3	DIDDY RYMER (12) (CD) (Frampion Royal Cald) Mrs 5 Smith 8 10 3	ė
4	1PP/3	JELALI (11) (Fort Partnership) D Hurray Smith 5 103	D
5	1F025-	WYNYARD LADY (176) (Ledy Mae Hell) Mrs M Reveloy 7 10 2	Ř
6		RUSSIAN ASPECT (F13) (A G Block) M W Enstarby 4 10 0	
7		BE BRAVE (6) Data S Parsons) T Etherington 8 10 0	
ß		BARRISTERS BOY (\$07) (Rumpole Parmership) T Easterby 8 10 0	
9		LEAP IN THE DARK (19) (D) (Mrs D J Monis) Miss L Siddel 9 to 0 E Huston	
10		MADENEST SAM (23) (M Clarke) P Beaumont 6 to 0	
11	508/00	DOUBLE DASH (11) (Sheroot Partnership) D Molfatt 5 to 0	η
		_ 11 dealered	

African Weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Russian Aspect Set 13b, Be Brave 9st 11b, Berrictess Boy Bat 9b, Leap in The Dark Set 3b, Medicants Sam 9st 9b, Double Dash 8st 10b, BETTING: 3-1 Wymyard Lady, 4-1 Canton Venture, 5-1 Das De Man, 6-1 Diddy Rymer, 7-1 Jelail, Be Brave, 10-1 Russian Aspect, Leap in The Dark, 14-1 others 1957: Best cher 8 10 4 R Burrs (7) 6-1 () Turner) 6 ran

FORM GUIDE

Control Venture: Control of the Canton Venture International Canton Venture Internation Canton Venture Internation Canton Venture Internation Canton Venture I

FORM GUIDE

Canton Venture: Consistent handicaper and suffed by last ground. Looks weighted up to his best form. Any overnight rain will be against him

Dan De Mart: Much improved last season when he won handicaps at Newcastle and Doncasser. Doubt about this as he did not seem to stay when tried beyond 2m Diddy Rymer: Won over 3m sayly lest season and was placed on 3 occasions, but seems to need a test of stamma. Nept on one pace from 3 out when 3rd on her reappearance at Towcaster (2m 5f) Jolaid: Missed last season, but shaped well on his first outing for over a year when 3rd at Untowater (2n/2m) this month. Should improve for the run and may be well in Wynyard Lady: Won a novice event at Kelso (2m) on her 2nd outings over hurdiss last season. Rather desponiting after that, but stable could handly be in better form Russian Aspect: Maiden handicap hurdler Rain probably his best race when 5th to Dan De Man at Doncaster in January, but is only 5b better off for 13 lengths Be Brave: Modest kandicapper, who has been tried over fences and has not won since April, 1996. Visoned for the first time hera, but Neyl to extend his losing run Barristers Boy: Maiden over Jumps and has not run since January when last of 5 Barristera Boy: Madden over jumps and has not run since January when last of 5 finishers behind Regamulf in a 2m 51 handicap chase. Makes no appeal Leap in The Davic Successful 3 times last season (once on good to soft). Could make no impression when a well beaten 8th at Sedgefield last month and is 7th out

amilist Sam: Was having his first race since February when 8th in a maiden hur de (21/2m) here last month. Signs of ability in bumpers, but out of his depth here Double Dash: Talled off in both outings over hurdles this season despite having had a pipe-opener on the Flat last month. Chance looks remote 19to out of the handicap VERDICT. With Mary Peveley sending out winners at over the country WYNYARD LADV can be expected to spot on here. Connectors thought enough of this dual bumper winner to let her take her chance in the mares' final at Newtury in March. She looks well treated at the weights and sar of the 11 numers are out of the handicap.

2 40 MITSUBISHI MOBILE PHONES LIMITED HANDICAP BETTING: 54 Lord Lamb, 41 Castleto 」CHASE (B) £10.500 added 2m Penalty V

September 1. Sept

Cumbrien Challenge: Has won eight of his 19 races here and looked set for another good season after linishing second to the well-handicapped Profluent here lest ar good season after finishing second to the well-handicapped Profluent here lest time (2m4, good to soft).
Konvelda King: Developed Into a very useful chaser two seasons ago and landed the valuable Marston Moor Chase over this course and distance before picking up an injury in the Mildmay Of Fete Chase at the Cheltenham Festival Dr Bonea: Finished a good fourth to Donbleevethenest on his reappearance at Ascut (2m, soft) and may improve. He should stay today's trip 10m Brodle: Was a lucky writer at Ayr Em, good to soft) on Sunday, as he was struggling in 3rd place when the two leaders came to grief at the last. He has an uphit task here crosshot Won very well here on his final start (2m, good), bearing a decent line-up including Potitical Tower, Time Won't Well, and Green Green Desert, He is still on a useful mark and should be equity effective over 2m4f. Reported to be a doubtful rumer MCDDINGT.

VERDICT: A competitive little handicap in which Konvekts King would have VEXIDIC I: A competitive hittle handicap in which Konvekta King would have an excellent chance if fully fit. However both he and Crosshot (a probable non-runner enyway) are likely to need the run. Cumbrian Challenge looks as good as ever but has plenty of weight and may find the concession of a stone to DR BONES too much. Ferty Murphy's five-year-old ran a fire race behind the useful Dontleavethevest at Ascot and may improve over today's extra half-mile.

3.10 PETER BEAUMONT OWNERS HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m 1f Penalty Value £3,556

Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weight: Prime Exemple 8st 11th, Meybe O'Grady 8st 5th. BETTING: 5-2 Rendom Hervist, 3-1 Organ Rectal, 4-1 Biue Irish, 13-2 Ask Me Leter, 7-1 Dream Ride, Prime Example, 10-1 Ballytice, 25-1 Maybe O'Grady

NEWTON ABBOT

1.00 Orange Place 1.30 Collier Bay 2.00 Azvasaksa 2.30 Glgi Beach 3.00 Sandoran 3.30 Oriental Boy 4.00 That's No Answer

E Left-hand, sharp, course with short run-m.

E Course is N of fown on A360 Newton Abbot station Im. ADMIS-SION: Tathersals £10. Course £5. Accompanied under £5 free CAR PARK: On calc £150 remainder free FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

ELEADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 99-353 (28%), P Hobbs 54-161 (293%), P Nicholis 35-144 (242%), R Frost 25-240 (04%) ELEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 69-22 (225%), R Dunwoody 44-133 (231%), J Frost 24-94 (22%), C Maude 18-110 (164%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None

1.00 WISHFUL THINKING SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,400 added 2m 1f

ч	_	
1	t	11F-3P SPRINT UP (FR) (19) (D) M Pice 4 ft 5 A P McCoy B
	2	50%(\$2) RED SERIEL (18) (CD) (BF) D Windo 6 N O W Marston
ł	3	UNESTO FEARLESS WONDER IS IN PLANT IN C. Mass K CH MARKE (T)
	÷	FO: FORMIDASILE FLAME (F26) G Hom 5 10 12 G Sharkin (5)
	÷	
i	6	250.00 ROY BOY (31) W G M Turner 6 to 12
	7	P 225- BAYWYN (241) M Churches 7 TO 7 Wr J Young (7)
	13	20 (F PERSIAN DAWN (28) PI Frost 5 177 J Frost
	2	PCOCC: SEE MANNOW (202) \$255 S Waterings 5 10 7. N Williamington (7)
		8 J. J

- 9 declared -BETTING: 7-4 Rad Ehrel. 5-2 Sprint Up. 5-1 Orange Place, 6-1 Roy Boy, 7-1 Persian Dawn, 8-1 Fearless Wondor, 14-1 Saywyn, 20-1 others. FORM VERDICT

BHB ratings give Sprint Up 16th at hand of RED EBREL on these terms but, with the top weight unreliable, preference is for Dunck Wintio's mare at likely odds in what appears a match 1.30 MOLESWORTH ARMS HOTEL NOVICE CHASE (E) £4,500 added 2m 110yds

BETTING: 4-7 Collier Bay, 7-2 Kingsfold Put, 7-1 Distant Echo, 8-1 De-

FORM VERDICT COLLIER BAY is difficult to oppose, despite his surprise re-verse at Towcester, That was a deappointing effort however you look at it, but, though jumping adequately, he appeared to run lazily and should be sharper this hims. There are queries

2.00 WILLIAM HILL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m 6f

Minumum weight: 10st. True handicarp weights: Shadmien Bot 11th, Aanesak-TING: 5-2 Name Of Our Father, 11-4 Agressakes, 7-2 Native Field. FORM VERDICT
A week race, NAME OF OUR FATHER may not be the force

he was, but the forcing lactics often employed could expose possible stamma limitations in Robert's Toy and Asivasali-sa Native Field will be expected to pose most problems if

2.30 CLAUDE WHITLEY MEMORIAL CUP H'CAP CHASE (D) 25,000 3m 2f 1 10yds 1USI 6 WELL TIMED (10) (C) R Frost 8 20 J Frost F240 FLIPPANCE (196) (U) N Gassino B 11 7 C Lieuchyn 12:55F BALLYEA BOY (b) J Mulins B 11 4 J M A Fitzgerald V

FORM VERDICT An open race. GIGI BEACH, the least exposed of the eight runners and seemingly on a fair mark on his first attempt in a handicap, can keep the Paul Nicholls bandwagon rolling. Plippance and Welf Timed are teared most.

3.00 DEVON NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) 23,000 added 2m 1f

BETTING: 8-11 Notive Fling, 4-1 Sendoran, 9-2 Mademe Mard, 5-1 Notice),

FORM VERDICT The outcome of an uncompetitive affair may well hang on the well-being of NATIVE FLING, who showed more than snough to suggest he was capable of winning in this grade when last in action in 1995-97. Petuntse and Madame Medicould have staming limitations, while Nakhai's record on the

3.30 SOUTH WEST RACING CLUB NOVICE H'CAP CHASE (E) £4,350 2m 5f 110yds # 12 declared BETTING: 3-1 Original Boy, 4-1 Tremsitt, 9-2 Holio Me Man, 6-1 Scarlet
Rambite, 9-1 Peerfu Choica, 10-1 Just Jesmine, The Halcher, 12-1 Churchtown Chanca, Divine Chanca, 16-1 others.

FORM VERDICT Pick of some poor performers could be lightly-raced THE HATCHER, who showed he retains ability on one occasion last term and will relish the testing conditions. He changed stables during the close season, and he new yard is in fine form. Oriental Boy could be the one to beat.

4.00 BOUNDERIES INTERMEDIATE OPEN NH FLAT RACE (H) £1,500 2m 1f LABILA BAY C Popum 4 11 4 R Fanadi LORD ALEXANDER G McCourt 5 11 4 W Maneton MANNLER M FGe 5 11 4 A P McCoy MCULY FITZ LAD Ms J Forma 4 11 4 D Leeby 0 RIVELORD (13) G Harn 4 TI 4 5 TI 4 6 SUPPLEME FROMA (163) P Nichols 5 TI 4 22-THATS NO ANSWER (171) Y Dannel 5 TI 4

FORM VERDICT

The choice pursets have to make is whether to go for one of the form horses Beau or Optimistic Thinker, or take a chance with one of the well-ared newcomers, of when the vibes are stranges for HONOUR YOUR YOWS, No Tale To Tell and Molly Fitz Lad.

Sting in tail from Croft and Mullally

MORALE-BOOSTING victories come in many shapes and sizes, but few as slender as England's over Queensland. In a match that was nip and tuck from the moment the first shooter claimed a victim, England prevailed against the odds by one wicket, the last pair of Alan Mullally and Robert Croft scoring 36 runs to record the tourists' first four-day win.

Needing 68 runs for victory at the start of the last day and with five wickets remaining, England slumped to 106 for 9, before the hour and the men cometh. Fittingly it was Croft who scored the winning run, for he had been so instrumental in helping England save the Old Trafford Test against South Africa in the summer, a draw that proved to be the turning point of the series.

Victory, especially one against the odds, can alter the mood of a team in an instant and England now travel to Brisbane with something other than speculation over Michael Atherton's dicky back and Mark Butcher's lamentable form.

If the success was unexpected, as it was for much of the second innings. Alec Stewart had every right to be pleased with the nature of it. Once again, as they had done earlier in the tour in the drawn matches against the Western Warriors and South Australia, England revealed a spirited streak, and similar intransigence will be vital in the Tests if Australia are to be troubled.

Yet, according to Croft, no one is getting carried away with the triumph. "Sure it's a boost to team spirit," he said afterwards, "but unless we perform well in the Ashes, this performance won't mean much."

Not swayed by the theorists who claimed that the front foot had to thrust as far down the pitch as possible in order to negate the shooter, Croft stuck technique he has been working many: he has recently had trouCRICKET

BY DEREK PRINGLE in Cairns

Queensland 209 & 124 England 192 & 142-9 England win by one wicket

ble against the short ball and merely sought Gooch's help. But if Croft was steadfast, Mulially was a revelation, Like all fast bowlers Mulially fancies himself with the bat. Until Monday morning there had been lit-. tle evidence that he even knew

what a bat was let alone familiar with shots like the hook and the sweep, both of which he played with great verve in his unbeaten 23. Dean Headley. another of the bowling fraternity, also weighed in with a useful 20, which included two of the nine fours struck in England's second innings. "I'm determined to have a good tour and do well," said

Mullally, once of Western Australia but now of Leicestershire. "If me and the rest of the tail-enders can make 20 or 30 runs each with the bat, it will help us enormously." As pure cricket goes, this

match has been generally dull and attritional, though the drama as the last pair inched their way towards the 142 required was undeniable.

In some ways, the unpredictable nature of the pitch, a mosaic of deep cracks, made batting more like Russian roulette, except it was toes rather than brains that were most in danger of ending up traumatised. One moment the ball was bouncing normally, then suddenly stumps would fly and another hapless victim would stare at the pitch before

trudging off to the pavilion. All but Croft and Mullally that is, who together survived 133 balls as Queensland pressed for rigidly to the back and across a victory that had seemed theirs from the moment they had dison with Graham Gooch. Like missed Dominic Cork the previous evening.

At that point England were 74 for 5, with only Atherton, still nursing a bad back, the last of the recognised batsman to come. The former England captain did not have to wait long and in the seventh over of the day, Mark Ramprakash mishooked Mike Kasprowicz to backward square leg. Kasprowicz, who finished with 6 for 30,

is in the Australian squad for

the first Test. Unsurprisingly

Shane Warne's name was not among the XII, which contained few surprises when it was announced before lunch. Atherton did not fare well and after getting off the mark, he was promptly stumped by Ian Healy off the left-arm spin of Paul Jackson. When you have a bad back - Atherton's problem is a degenerative disease known as spondolytis - the last thing you want to be doing is lunging on to the front foot,

get to the pitch of the ball. It is a difficult move to perform when compromised by pain and Atherton will be seeing a specialist in Brisbane, probably in order to have a cortisone injection to reduce the inflammation around his spine.

which is why he tried, albeit un-

successfully, to use his feet to

As he has already had two of these in Adelaide, a third would seem a fairly risky undertaking, one at odds with his confidence in being fit to open the innings in the first Test. England badly need him, but not at the cost to his long-term health.

Final day of four; England won toss QUEENSLAND - First landings 209 [G I Foley 71, I A Healy 57]. ENGLAND - First innings 192 (A I Stew-art 52: A C Date 7-33). ENSLAND - Second Includes 124 (I ther S6). ENGLAND - Second Includes

ENGLAND — Second lanings
(Cernight 74 for 5)

M R Ramprakash e Bichel b Kasprowacz ... 8

D W Headley b Kasprowicz ... 20

M A Atherton st Healy b Jackson ... 1

R D B Croft not out ... 15

D Gough b Kasprowicz ... 23

Extras (b1 810) ... 11

Total (for 9, 61.2 overs) ... 142

Pall (cont): 6-89 7-100 B-104 9-106

Bowilling: Bichel 9-1-32-1: Dale 12-5-23-1: Kasprowicz 18.2-5-31-6; Jackson 21-7-40-1; Symonds 1-0-5-0.



Gillespie back to face England

THE FAST bowler Jason Gillespie and the batsman Ricky Ponting were named yesterday to the 12-man Australian squad to play England in the first Test starting in Brisbane on Friday. Australia's daunting pace

attack will consist of Gillespie. who returns from injury, Michael Kasprowicz, and Glenn McGrath, with swing bowler Damien Fleming also in the

With Shane Warne likely to miss the first two Tests, the Australian selectors have chosen leg-spinner Stuart MacGill to lead the slow-hall attack

It may be psychological warfare, but Steve Waugh, Australia's vice-captain, began talking up England yesterday. asserting that Australia face probably their toughest Ashes series of the last decade.

Waugh, speaking after the 12-man squad was named for the first Test said that he expected England to start the series in combative mood.

"On paper they look a very good side with a lot of experience and have got the knowhow to win a Test series now," he said. "This is a crucial tour for a lot of those guys - a lot of

them haven't beaten Australia. Ashes series against England like Alec Stewart. They will be until be is "100 per cent fit". Ausdesperate to beat us, so I expect this to be our toughest series in probably 10 years." Waugh said that Australia

must avoid a repetition of their poor batting performance on the opening day of the last series, in England. "We ve got to be careful we don't do what we did at Edgbaston, when they had us five for about 30, so we've got to have a good first session and I think that's

the key." he said. Warne will not be included in the Australian team for the

being drawn away to New-

castle in the fourth round of

the Tetley's Bitter Cup. Bath

have lost their last three

league games against Rob

Andrew's men, including a

19-17 reversal at the

tralia's chairman of selectors. Trevor Hohns, said. "If it takes one, two, three,

four or even five Tests, Shane won't be coming back until he's 100 per cent fit," Hohns said. Warne dismissed Adam

Gilchrist on Monday to finish with 1 for 28 off seven overs in the second innings of Victoria's Sheffield Shield match against Western Australia.

AUSTRALIA SOLIAD (v England, First Test, Erisbane, starting Friday): M Tay-kv (capt), M Slater 5 Whugh, D Fleming, J Gillespie, 1 Healy (wkt), M Kasprowicz, J Langer, 5 MacGill, G McGrath, R Ponting, M Waugh,

Hooper compiles faultless hundred

BY NORMAN BROWN in Kimberley

Griqualand West 271 & 123-5 West Indies 466

CARL HOOPER followed his captain, Brian Lara, to a century as the West Indies headed for victory over Griqualand West on their South African tour yesterday. By the end of the third day here, the home side were 123 for 5 in their second innings, 73 runs short of avoiding an innings defeat.

Earlier, Hooper had hit 109 - his century coming off 166 balls - as the West Indians reached 466. The vice-captain's chanceless innings ended when he the hooked left-arm seam bowler, Adri Swanepoel, to fine leg. He hit 11 fours and a six.

The West Indies had to do without Courtney Walsh in the second innings after the veteran fast bowler sprained his left ankle Saturday. Team officials said his injury was minor. Curtly Ambrose, the other veteran in the West Indies attack, was also out of action, recovering from having a toenail removed. He bowled in the nets yesterday and is expected to play in his first match of the tour against Free State in a four-day game, starting in Bloemfontein Friday.

Despite that, the tourists soon had Grigualand in trouble, with only their captain, Mickey Arthur, with 46, and Pieter Barnard, unbeaten on 42, looking confident. Their stand ended when Barnard failed to respond to Arthur's call, and Arthur was run out by Stuart Williams from cover.

Graduland West won loss
GRADULAND WEST - First innings
271 (P Banard 58, M Dulon & 10)
WEST INDIES - First landings
(Overinght: 3.77 for 61
C L Hooper & Botha & Swanepoet 10;
R D Incobs the b Symbos 46
F A Rose c and b Riuls 48
C A Walsh not out 19
Entras ((b14 nb2) 11
Entras ((b14 nb2) 15
Entras ((b14 nb2) 16 L Bosman c Williams o Dillon
P Barnard not out
W Dry c Lara b Chanderpoul ...
A Botha c Lara b Rose
F Brooker not out
Extras (no4)
Table 1 for Es

Lewis lined up to replace Quinnell Bath's 'tough' task

THE PONTYPRIDD forward Geraint Lewis has been put on standby for Wales' game against Argentina at Llanelli on Saturday. The flanker, in the Wales A side to face Argentina tomorrow, will step up to the senior side should Scott Quinnell be ruled out.

Quinnell's appeal against his 14-day suspension by the Rugby Football Union takes place tonight. If it is dismissed, then he cannot face the Pumas.

Graham Henry, the Wales coach, will almost certainly switch Colin Charvis from blind-side flanker to No 8 should that happen, and call up the highly rated Lewis for his second cap but first start in a

RUGBY UNION rugby's battered pride.

Henry said he was confi-

BY WYN GRIFFTTHS

Quinnell, now a Llanelli mond's Allied Dunbar Premiership victory over Wasps last month for a late tackle on fiercely protested his innocence, claiming that Quinnell was harshly treated by the refnot deserve the red card.

At the moment, Henry's that shook the world champions, South Africa, on Saturday, a re-

dent that Quinnell will be part of his team, but the RFU was last night unable to confirm replayer, was sent off during Rich-ports that Dallaglio might have come out in Quinnell's defence.

Henry said: "Scott should not have been ordered off - it was the England captain, Lawrence a charge, not a tackie. If the ap-Dallaglio. Richmond have peal goes in Scott's favour, then it would be the right decision. The referee is a very good official, but we all make mistakes, eree, Brian Campsall, and did and I am positive enough to expect a positive result."

The New Zealander has not team is unchanged from the one surprisingly kept faith with those players who outplayed the Springboks at Wembley but sounding vote of confidence for were beaten 28-20. Henry, players who restored Welsh meanwhile, is urging Welsh

rugby fans to keep the result in ments that the Welsh public perspective.

"We could have, and should have won," he said. "We lost it, rather than them winning. It was a reasonable performance. but we lost our discipline towards the end. I hope the Welsh nation keeps its feet on the ground. It was a positive start, but we only played in patches and at the end of the

day, we didn't win the game. "This is a quality Argentine team that has played together against Italy and France. We need another performance of real quality to establish a psychological advantage for the encounters to come." Wales' Lions centre Scott

Gibbs echoed Henry's senti-

should not get carried away.

game, but we didn't win it. It is important we stay level-headed and apply ourselves for Saturday," Gibbs said. "Argentina are going to be very similar types of oppo-

understand that one swallow doesn't make a summer." doesn't make a summer."

WALES (v Argentina, Stradey Park,
Lianelli, Saturday): S Howarch (Sale);
G Thomas (Cardiff). M Baylor (Swansea).
S Gibbs (Swansea). D James: N Jesklas (both Pontypridd). R Howstey (Lapt):
A Lewis. J Humphreys (all Cardiff). C
Anthony (Swansea). C Cultimelli (Richmond). C Wyastr (Lianelli). C Charvis
(Swansea). M Williams (Pontypridd). S
Onimnelli (Lianelli). Replacements: M
Rayer (Cardiff). N Boobyer (Lianelli). D
Liewellyn (Ebbw Vale). M Woyle
(Lianelli). D Morris (Swansea). B Ewans
(Swansea). B Williams (Richmond).

Liewellyn (Eobw Va (Lianelli), D Morris (Swa (Swansea), B Williams

"We had chances to win the

Gateshead International Stanents. They have heavy, athletic dium in September. forwards, and we've got to The Falcons recently moved back to Kingston Park, their former home, although the prospect of live television coverage and a bumper attendance could

see Gateshead favoured. Andy Robinson, the Bath coach, described the prospect of visiting Falcons as "very tough" "To lift the cup you have to

beat all the best sides, and

cult ties away from home," Robinson said.

Worcester, the Premiership Two title challengers, will be assured of a warm welcome iust down the M5 at Kingsholm. where Gloucester await.

Bruce Fenley, the Worcester captain and scrum-half, is a former Gloucester player togeth-

TETLEY'S BITTER

FOURTH ROUND: Waterloo v Ortell: Not-tingham v Exeter. Bedford v Henley, Barking v Lekester; Kendal v London Scot-trsh. Rotherham v Leeds; Sedgley Park v Wasps: Gloucester v Worcester: Bristol v London Irish. Sale v Northampron: Har-lequins v Esher. Morley v Sarkens; West Hartlepool v Brackinell. Newcastle v Barth: Richmond v Newbury; Moseley v Lydney. Ties to be played on weekend of 9th: 10th January 1999

BATH FACE a major task after that often means winning diffier with the wing Paul Holford and other squad members Simon Morris and Tim Smith.

"It's a very interesting tie." said Richard Hill, Gloucester's rugby director, "With all the former Gloucester players now with Worcester, it should be a cracking occasion." Sale will aim to make use of

ground advantage against Northampton after the Saints' 37-17 home league victory.

The holders, Saracens, go to Yorkshire to take on Morley, the Jewson National League One side who are struggling just above the relegation area.

Sedgley Park's reward for beating Premiership Two Blackheath is a home tie

LINGFIELD

HYPERION

12.20 Evezio Rufo 12.50 Magic Memories 1.20 Gold Honor 1.50 Top Of The Form 2.20 Silver Sun 2.50 Elhabub 3.20 Churchill's Shadow 3.50 Roisin Splendour

GOING: Standard STALLS: 5! & Im - outside, rest - inside

STALLS: 5: 8 m - outside, rest - inside

ORAW ADVANTAGE: Low.

Equitack surface: left hand, sharp undukting course.

Equitack surface: left hand, sharp undukting course.

Course is SE of flown on E2028, Lingited station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADM/SION: Cub C3, Family Enclosure C10 CAR PARK: Club C3, Template in the course care in the course. FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING TRAINERS: G L Moore 89-685 (13%), M Johnston 51-797 (176%) R Hannon 51-395 (172%)

LEADING JOCKEYS: J Weaver 83-397 (205%), L Dettori 75-330 (207%), A Clark 75-634 (186%), R Cochrane 89-400 (173%), TAVOURITES: 774-2316 (33-5%)

FLONG DISTANCE CHANGE Love River in 201 have been sent FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LONG DISTANCE RUNNER: Love Blues (120) has been sent

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Complimentary (1250), The Dirk (1550) Zada (250), Totom (visored, 250).

12.20 PARTIES IN THE PAVILION AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (G) 52,500 1m 4f RIDERS HANDICAP (G) 22,500 Till

2002: FAHS (USA) (12) (D) G Lewis 6 17 - Mr D H Dunsdon (7) 14

2002: SHARBADARID (5) (CD) 5 Dow 4 110 - Mr R Guest (5) 17

2003: SHARBADARID (5) (CD) 5 Dow 4 110 - Mr J Moore 8

2004: ROSHARBAD (7) (CD) 5 Dow 4 10 5 Mr J Moore 8

2004: RASPBERRY SAUCE (108) (CD) CVERT 4 15 Mr S Booky 2

2004: GOLD BLADE (112) (CD) J Pearce 9 13 - Mr J Pearce 11

(U.G.) ROYAL ROBLETTE (28) (CD) Mrs 8 Sanders 4 10 - Mr J Best (7) 6

4304: ELA-VIE-MOU (2111 L 4 Doc 5 9 13 - Mr J Best (7) 6

2004: HURGILL DANCER (48) (D) 6 OSultion 4 9 12 - Mr J Best (7) 12

G Lowers (7) 12

9 061455 EVECTO RUFO (5) (C D) N Lorencian 6.9.7

10 060005 SAND CAY (L31) R O'Sulvan 4.9.7

11 06000 LANCES PET (167) D OBsen 4.9.9

12 07176 GENERAL GLOW (C2) (D) P Evere 5.9.3

13 06000 LANCES PET (167) D OBsen 4.9.9

14 06000 LANCES PET (167) D OBsen 4.9.9

15 06000 LANCES PET (167) D OBsen 4.9.9

16 06000 LANCES PET (167) D OBsen 4.9.9

17 06000 LANCES PET (167) D OBsen 4.9.9

18 06000 S 93 Mrs E J Jances (5) 18

18 06000 CATCHMENT (124) J S Moore 3.9.3

19 10 Mrs A Perrett 4.9.3

11 Mrs A Perrett 4.9.3

12 Mrs A Strongs (5) 1 Mrs A Perrett 4.9.3

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18 Mrs C Cooper (3) 1.3

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12

FORM VERDICT

ROMAN REEL is very reliable at this level and though he is seen as a non-stayer on turf, he could yet get the trip on sand

12.50 CHRISTMAS RACE NIGHTS SELLING STAKES (G) \$2,500 added 2YO 7f

- 10 dyctered -BETTING: 9-4 Glastonbury, 3-1 Magic Memories, 6-1 Simpson's Domain 8-1 Cedar Wells, My Mother's Dream, 10-1 Patsys Forem, 20-1 others FORM VERDICT

Aithough today's extra furiong will suit Gleatonbury much bet-ter than the 6t he raced over here last week, he is basically her the state of the city warmer in the line-up. Magic e disappointing sort. The city warmer in the line-up. Magic Memories, has to be leared but preference is CEDAR WELLS, who showed enough in turf sprint maiders to suggest he is

1.20 GET YOUR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP NURSERY H'CAP (E) £3,750 2YO 1m

456204 FRIENDLY BRAVE (49) (CD) Miss G Kelleway 8 9 11 ...

- 10 declared -BETTING: 9-2 Friendly Brave, 5-1 Top Of The Form, Southern Doralnion, 7-1 Young liber, Tom Tun, 8-1 Sum To Dream, Just Dissident, 10-1 others FORM VERDICT

This is a desperately hard sprint. Tom Tun is open to improvement but is not the best of starters and may need this experience of the surface. JUST DISSIDENT is not in as bed form as his figures suggest and goes well on the surface: he gets a hopeful vole. 2.20 POLYGRAM CLASSICS MAIDEN STAKES (D) (DIV I) £4,000 3YO 1m 2f

FORM VERDICT

With a definee stamme doubt about Flame Tower and Lorenzo this is likely to be tought out by the well-bred fillies HIGH-EST ACCOLADE and Silver Sun, for whom a wan will be a boost far their stud careers. Protected is for the Gosden filly who has not had the chances that Silver Sun has had.

2.50 POLYGRAM CLASSICS MAIDEN STAKES (D) (DIV II) £4,000 3YO 1m 21 FORM VERDICT

None of these have run on Equitrack, but the two mean contenders. VALE OF LEVEN and Gold Honor do handle Finesend Preference is for the termer who is group from strength ostrength and showed at Southwell on Friday that he has the factical speed to share have.

1.50 CONTACT SALES & MARKETING

2.50 CONTACT SALES & MARKETING

3.50 CONTACT SALES & MARKETING

4.50 CONTACT SALES & MARKETING

5.50 CONTACT SALES & MARKETING

5.50 CONTACT SALES & MARKETING

5.50 CONTACT SALES & MARKETING

6.50 CONTAC

FORM VERDICT ELHABUB has the best recent form of some disappositing sorts, though Totom should not be written off just yet.

3.20 LADBROKE AW TROPHY H'CAP (QUALIFIER) (E) (DIV I) £4,000 7f 1 (GUALLFIER) (E) (DIV I) £4,000 71

1 602000 HUGWITY (S) G Brasry 6 100 ... N Day 12

2 48020 MULLTOWER (17) (D) M Heaton-Els 8 9 10 ... S Drowne 2

3 80006 A.RG DANCER (21) M Charmon 5 9 9 ... Candy Nama 7

4 000021 TOPTON (41 (D) P Howing 4 9 8 65a) ... Dean McKoown 6

5 034000 BOATER (89) A T Murphy 4 9 5 Dean McKoown 6

5 20030 BIG BEN (22) (CD) (BF) R Harmon 4 9 5 Dean O'Neill 9

7 2-55; CHURCHEL'S SHADOW (5) (CD) B Pearce 4 8 II P Doe (5) 8

3 25400 SHAPP IMP (5) (C) (D) R Power 8 8 6 R Picto 10 B

9 004000 NORDINEX (5) (C) P Hayward 5 8 6 A Nicholis (5) 11

20 00200 MASS ALHAWA (59) (D) D Chapma 5 7 12

P Respect 3

10 055000 JUSTINAMAUS (12) (C) 1 Bridge 6 7 10 ... G Bardwell 12

405400 WILD NETTLE (12) J Fox 4 7 10 Declan O'Shea 4

12 declared -... ... Declan O'Shea 4

Minimum: 7st 10th. True weights: Justinearus 7st 7th, Wird Nette 7st 3th. BETTENG: 7-2 Topson, 5-1 Churchill's Shadow, 6-1 Meditover, Afg Dancer, Big Ben, 8-1 Boster, 10-1 Hugwity, Kass Alliana. 12-1 others FORM VERDICT

Both divisions of this event are far less competitive than the qualifiers run here last Thursday and Churchill's Shadow, who finished lifth to Last Reputation then is clearly a major player loday Bur he has come up against a well-handcapped and back-to-form rival in TOPTON who will be hard to beat If adapting to Equitrack as well as he did to Floresand last week Multitovar looks the pick of the remainder

3.50 LADBROKE AW TROPHY H'CAP (QUALIFIER) (E) (DIV II) £4,000 7f

1 5500 BE NY WISH (5) (D) Miss C Relevay 3 9 13 ... S Drowns 9
2 004000 VICTORY TEAM (28) (C D) Miss E Layels 6 9 11 ... R Harden (3) 3 V
3 4-1700 BALANITA (24) (D) 5 Pairs (3 9 1) ... G Fauthors (3) 11
4 400000 SHAMIMARI SONG (10) DN Calestran 3 9 10 ... D Michaemer 2
5 000040 SHADES DF LOVE (57) (D) V Scare 4 9 6 ... C Rutter 7
6 100000 ROSSIN SPLEMOUR (45) (D) 5 Dow 3 9 5 ... P Doe (3) 6
7 4-5000 OUT LINE MAGIC (45) P Evers 3 9 0 ... F Norton 4
8 005000 ULTRA BEET (5) (C) RM Power 5 8 12 ... Dann O'Neid 8
9 6-0600 MR SPEAKER (43) (D) C Wat 5 8 7 ... A Nicholla (5) 5
10 00-000 EXPLOSIVE POWER (43) (C) Bravery 283 N Day 10 10 550000 MAIPLE (55) 4 Broker 47 10 ... R Brickshot (7) 1

FORM VERDICT It may be worth taking a chance on ROISIN SPLENDOUR on today's AW debut A winner at Brighton (where many Equitrack, specialists share) she is well treated on her best turl form and this is far less competitive than her usual races.

CUP DRAW

Storm title hopes

dented by Kummu

MANCHESTER STORM, the Sekonda Superleague leaders, slipped to only their second defeat of the season in west Scotland on Sunday.

There was not much to choose between Storm and Ayr Scottish Eagles, but the hosts edged the contest 4-3 to continue their impressive return to form after a sluggish start to the campaign. Storm took the first-period

honours courtesy of Rick Brebant's powerplay strike, and Kevin Hoffman doubled the lead early in the second session. Mark Woolf and Dino Bauba

brought Avr back into it, only for Jeff Jablonski to restore Manchester's lead within nine seconds. But Sam Groleau tied the scores, and Ryan Kummu's 42nd-minute strike gave Ayr the lead for the first time.

Nottingham Panthers, Ayr's B&H Cup final opponents, looked like they were suffering from their midweek exertions as they trailed bottom club Newcastle Riverkings 2-0 on their own Lower Parliament

put Riverkings in control, but ond of the night won it for Bees.

ICE HOCKEY BY SIMON LOVELL

depleted Nottingham hit back to win 4-2 and cut Ayr's lead at the top to two points. Greg Hadden scored twice and was only denied a hat trick by Wayne Cowley's penalty save. with Paul Adey and Jamie Leach also on the mark for Mike Blaisdell's side.

Panthers were without four injured players and the suspended Corey Beaulieu, and their problems increased when they lost Simon Hunt, who suffered a recurrence of a hand injury, during the game.

Bracknell Bees, Jim Fuyarchuk's former club, came from behind to beat his current charges. London Knights, 4-3.

Cory Lyons, with two goals, and Bruce Eakin had London 3-1 up with less than 15 minutes to play at the London Arena. But Chris Brant reduced the deficit and Barry McKinlay's second goal, at 50min 52sec.

took the game into overtime. Just 40 seconds into the sud-Paul Dixon and Jamie Black den-death period, Brant's sec-

on local

loyalties

England's latest

going to follow

family traditions.

By Adam Szreter

TO DESCRIBE Lee Hendrie as

wide-eyed on his first day with

the full England squad yes-

terday would be something of

an understatement, but at

least he has the pedigree to

suggest that, once the novelty

has worn off, one of Glenn

Hoddle's newest recruits will

be as much at home at Bisham

Abbey as he is in midfield at

Father Paul, a Scotsman who

began his career with Celtic.

once wore the blue and white of

Villa's arch rivals, Birmingham

City, in the days when Trevor Francis used to destroy Villa

almost single-handedly. Now he manages non-League Tam-

worth, who took Exeter City to

the wire in the FA Cup first

round at the weekend, while

uncle John, another Scot. is manager of Barnsley.

There was a time when the

representative future of Hen-

drie Jur was in some doubt, but

with the kind of accent that has

given Brummies a bad name

ever since Crossroads plagued

the television schedules. Eng-

land were always favourites to

youngest member of this par-

they [Scotland] were going to

take me for a trial but I didn't

take much notice of that." Hen-

drie said. "I always wanted to

play for England.'

"There was some talk that

ticular footballing dynasty.

Villa Park.

prodigy was never

Dublin talks Hoddle's language

BY CLIVE WHITE

DION DUBLIN has scored a few goals in his career but it was more of an own goal that first left its mark on the England coach. Asked whether there was any time when he viewed the Aston Villa striker as just a big target man, Glenn Hoddle smartly replied: "Yeah. when he put an elbow straight in my face while I was playing for Swindon against Cam-

While his experience with Chris Sutton might suggest otherwise, Hoddle has evidently not held any grudge against Dublin because he is almost certain to award him his fourth cap tomorrow when he is expected to lead England's attack against the Czech Republic in the absence of Alan Shearer, Michael Owen and Teddy Sheringham.

Dublin has come on somewhat since those up-and-at-'em days of John Beck at Cambridge, maturing into a striker who has a lot more going for him than just size and the occasional errant elbow. "They were a bit physical in those days, Cambridge, as a I recall," Hoddle said. "You couldn't tell whether his touch was any good because the ball was always in the air, but if he'd played for a footballing team who wanted to get it down and play. I'm sure he could have

Clearly, in the absence of Shearer, his captain, and Tony Adams. Hoddle will be looking to Dublin to talk a good game as well as play one, and in that respect, at least, he can be relied upon not to fail Hoddle. A strong character, Dublin's influence on the Coventry team in recent seasons has been monumental, and after just a fortnight at Villa Park it is evident that his contribution to the Premiership leaders will also go beyond being a prolific striker. if the response from the enigmatic Stan Collymore is anything to go by.

"You've got a centre-forward who talks like a centre-half, because he's played there a few times." Hoddle said, "He organises people. He listens off can see him possibly going into coaching or being a manager himself. He's got that sort of



Out of the shadows: Lee Hendrie and Dion Dublin (right), Aston Villa team-mates, relax at England's training session at Bisham yesterday

Peter Jay benefit from the talents of the

pace (Owen) and strength (Shearer), the England coach is endeavouring to talk the op- the lads smiling all the time. If position to death, Dublin is ex- you don't have a particularly pected to line-up alongside a compulsive chatterbox with whom he admits even he can- a bit of a laugh with you." not get a word in edgeways the TV chat show host-cum footballer, Ian Wright.

like Ian Wright when I'm his age (35). His mentality and fitness

the Czechs; in the absence of him, be's one of the players you look up to. You need players like that around the place to keep good training session, he'll be there at your shoulder having

They complement each other starter, and Dublin the late de-"I try to be like him but he veloper. An overnight success in the pitch, he wants to learn. I always takes centre stage, his 10 years is how one might de is always the voice you can scribe the Leicester-born hear," Dublin said. "I hope to be Dublin. He started out as a packer in a hosiery factory earning £80 a week - "I remember In fact, that could be Hod- is brilliant. My being a little it clear as day" - before his proud of them. "It's good to sam- cording to Hod-dle's secret weapon against younger (Dublin is 29) than brother's friend, the former ple all the warts of football," he it "like a man".

England Under-21 winger Dale said. "Twe been in the Fourth Di-Gordon, got him a trial at Norwich. He eventually moved on to Cambridge where for a time he was loaned out to King's Lynn in the Beazer Homes League, playing before crowds of 400 -"if we were lucky".

Chris Turner gave him his League chance at Cambridge before Beck took over, imposing his unorthodox but highly successful coaching methods on impressionable young players like Dublin. He has no regrets about his humble origins and, in fact, one suspects he is rather

vision, the Third, the Second, the Premier and now I'm here joked. "The disappointment today. I think it's good to experience all the different standards of football. It makes you appreciate what you've got."

Dreams of playing for England then must have been a bit fanciful, but no not a bit of it, said Dublin. "I've always dreamed of playing for England having a No 9 shirt on one day," he said with genuine sincerity. Missing the cut in England's World Cup squad of 30 was "hard to handle", although according to Hoddle he handled

the room I cried," Dublin halfwas with me probably right up until the first game in Marseilles when I saw the boys walk out - that was the hardest thing. But you've got to keep plugging away and that's what

It has taken Dublin a long time to lose that "big target man" tag and even Hoddle seemed to infer that the reason why Dublin did not go to France was because they were well catered for in that respect and

agreed, clubs seemed more interested in buying "quick, tricky foreigners". He said: "But I think you need to have a player like myself in your side that can help you out in other departments.

for Dublin but the West Ham striker, for his part, has also tried to copy one or two learning to play the saxo-Dublin was not sure. "I haven't "but I've seen his sax and it needed players with pace. A looks a bit too nice and clean

traits of his soul brother, like phone, just how successfully heard Wrighty play," he said.

Now, at 21 and barely a third of the way through his Wright may be a role model first full season in the Premiership. Hendrie has become the fourth player from the League leaders to infiltrate · Hoddle's elite group, thanks in no small part to half a dozen

> put him and his team-mates in the spotlight. "The last 12 months have been a big turn-around for me," he admitted. Prior to manager, Hendrie had been a peripheral figure as far as the first team was concerned.

excellent performances with

the Under-21s and Villa's own

success this season which has

"At that stage I was frustrated and didn't know where I stood," he said. "One week I was getting in the team but then the next I wasn't even on the substitutes' bench. It was a hard time for me.

"Brian Little didn't want to out me in with Villa down the bottom of the Premiership. He felt there would be a lot of pressure on me and that was fair enough. But I wanted to play and I thought I might have to move elsewhere. I thought I might have to go into a lower division."

Apart from his decision to face their Belgian counterparts throw Hendrie in at the deep end when he took over from Little, Gregory's inclination to choose English players has has been selected for a match probably helped Hendrie's cause too, although the player himself insists that is more coincidence than policy. "It's nice to have an all-English team, but it's not really been a big issue in the dressing-

room." he said. The next logical step for Gregory, of course, would be a team full of Brummies with Hendrie, regarded as the best home-grown prospect since Gary Shaw, leading the way. But one battle he has yet to win is with the rest of his family, who remain staunchly blue and white despite Hendrie's exploits in the north of the city. "I used to support Birmingham as a youngster and I was with them as a schoolboy," he revealed.

"It came down to a choice between signing for them or Villa. I went to Villa at 15 and changed my allegiance, but all my family still support the

"I do get a bit of stick for it. but it's only friendly banter. At least I've got my nan to change her colours now - I bought her a season ticket so she goes to the Blues one week and the Villa the next."

And if anyone can bridge the divide between the city's two warring factions, then the likeable Hendrie might just be

McCarthy's early risers mostly intact Barry in a hurry THERE WAS an early call for the BY STEVE TONGUE

Republic of Ireland's players yesterday, but none for Andy Townsend, their former captain. Townsend, who retired from international football last season, was prepared to return at short notice for tomorrow's important European Championship tie against Yugoslavia here if injuries severely depleted the squad at the weekend following the refusal of Fifa, world football's governing body to implement their own rule that players should be released five days before a competitive international.

The Republic lost Ian Harte. the Leeds United full-back, but their manager, Mick McCarthy, insisted that the only alarm bells ringing in the camp were the ones that woke the players at their Dublin hotel for an 8am training session before departure for Belgrade.

. Some Irish heroes of the past might not have returned

in Belgrade

beavers were all up and running post-haste at the Post House, except for Charlton's Mark Kinsella. Although unable to train, he said that a dead leg would not prevent him from turning out tomorrow, which killed any notion of calling Townsend. On Saturday the two mid-

fielders had been in direct opposition in the Charlton-Middlesbrough match, when 13

members of the Irish squad ture in picking Roy Keane and Denis Irwin only as substitutes for Manchester United.

Tony Cascarino came unscathed through his French league match for Nancy only to be held up for five hours at Belgrade airport, when the authorities decided that visas issued for the original game were no longer valid.

played for most of a game. It petitive and the risk of picking would have been more, but for up injuries was always there," after the game in Belgrade Alex Ferguson's generous gesmised us in terms of preparation but now it's done with so we're just concentrating on the game. If we get anything out of it, it'll be a massive step towards qualifying. If you offered me a draw, I'd take it and go home.

It's a big game." It is one that the Irish approach in good heart, having followed victory in their open-

Hughes to break pain barrier

MICHAEL HUGHES is prepared to play through the pain of a hernia problem for Northern Ireland in tomorrow's Euro 2000 qualifier against Moldova.

The Wimbledon winger's injury restricts his training and may ultimately require surgery but his willingness to appear is from their night out by that hour. heartening news for Lawrie The present crop of eager McMenemy. The Irish coach

anticipated Hughes would have we will be top on six points with to withdraw from the match at Finland and Turkey," he said. Windsor Park when he heard that he had been substituted against Chelsea on Saturday. Hughes did not train yesterday. but he has assured McMenerny

he will play tomorrow. "There is no way I would want to miss this game, because if we beat Moldova then

Newcastle's Aaron Hughes, who strained a calf muscle on Saturday, became the fourth player to pull out yesterday following the withdrawals of Kevin Horlock, Jim Whitley and George O'Boyle. The Under-21 captain, Danny Griffin, and Luton's Phil Gray are called up.

the table, with a game in hand on Croatia. Yugoslavia have yet to play and, according to Sasa Ilic, the Charlton goalkeeper expected to be among their substitutes, they are all the keener because of last month's postponement.

"The people in Belgrade are really up for this game and the atmosphere will be fantastic," he said. "The Irish team can expect. something special. Ireland are a good side - what impresses me is their team spirit and togetherness. Yugoslavia probably have the better individuals and we must hope our players blend

Yugoslavia appear to have been cannier than the Irish amid all the shenanigans with Fifa, football's world body, last week, calling the vast majority of their squad home before the clubs could claim them.

"Our players are very coming match against Croatia with to make big time

That has put them on top of coach, Peter Taylor, has revealed that the intervention of Glenn Hoddle has led to Gareth Barry's being put on a fast track to the full international squad.

The Aston Villa central defender will take another step towards the senior side when he plays for the Under-21s at the tender age of 17 in today's international with the Czech Republic at Inswich. However, Taylor admitted

that Barry was earmarked to play at only Under-18 level this season before Hoddle, the senior coach, decided that he needed a bigger stage on which to develop. It is another huge step forward for Barry, who was playing in midfield for Villa's reserve team barely six months ago.

first-team regular alongside Gareth Southgate and Ugo

THE ENGLAND Under-21 Ehiogu in Aston Villa's surge to the leadership of the Premiership.

Taylor admitted: "There has been a change in the way things were planned for Gareth because of the progress of the boy. Glenn has seen a lot of him and he is saying that Gareth has done so well that he needs to get into the Under-21s quicker than we ever thought was going to happen."

The Newcastle striker Paul Dalglish has withdrawn from the Scotland Under-21 squad to at Love Street tomorrow.

because of a groin problem. Not one Premiership player to celebrate the centenary of the Italian football federation. in Rome on 16 December. Coached by Celtic's Jozef Ven-This season he has been a glos, the squad is dominated by players competing in Italy's Serie A.

Nosy press cause Brazilian brawl

RELATIONS BETWEEN footballers and the British press are occasionally less than cordial, but they would have to deteriorate some to match scenes witnessed at the weekend in the Brazilian chamoionship quarter-final between Sport Recife and Santos.

Tempers flared after Recife, already two goals ahead, were awarded a controversial penalty. Santos players argued with the linesman but finally lost their tempers when a radio reporter held a microphone between them and the official to get a better idea of what was being said.

The striker Viola was then seen to lash out at a reporter. leading to a free-for-all involving Santos players, policemen cife ended up 3-1 winners and wielding truncheons, more re- no one was sent off.



EDITED BY NICK HARRIS

Emerson Leaon. The brawling

WORLD

lasted 20 minutes but was not the last controversial moment. The referee later appeared to award a goal-kick instead of a penalty and then changed his mind once again by awarding a penalty. At least events

ended on a peaceful note. Re-

SPAIN

NANDO MUNOZ, an Espanyol defender, was as surprised as anyone when his shot midway through Sunday's game against Real Zaragoza put his League to Bayern Munich. side 2-0 ahead. He had gone 12 centre-back, who has played Madrid, looked stunned upon scoring, "Tim very, very happy," he said after the game, which

ended 3-0 to the visitors. "But I can't talk now. I'm waiting for a call from my family." NETHERLANDS

JOHAN CRUYFF has launched

his most virulent attack yet on

his compatriot, the Barcelona

a former player and coach at Barcelona, made his latest criticisms in the wake of GERMAN PROFESSIONAL Barcelona's recent defeats in both the Spanish league to Oviedo and the Champions'

"It's a street without an years and 246 games in the end. Van Gaal does not know Spanish First Division without where he is going," Cruyff troubling the statisticians. The said. "Van Gaal has committed many errors not because he is for Barcelona and Real stupid but because he does not know the club. He's lost the base I established and does not have the affection of the Catalan players.

"I am Dutch and I signed Koeman and Witschige but never in my life did I play six or seven Dutch players. [Van Gaal has six Dutch players in his first-team squad at the moment) You can imagine the outcry if eight Spaniards were coach, Louis van Gaal. Cruyff, to turn out for Ajax."

football players are too lazy, according to the Werder Bremen coach, Felix Magath. "In a free economy system, you will not find anybody who works three hours a day and earns millions," the former German international said last week.

Asked if he thought players should work a 40-hour week, he replied: "Why not? I have the feeling that players have an easy life. They must understand that we're permanently involved in a competition with the other clubs and that this competition is a tough one."

Thailand

Villa striker who is now coach to lose to avoid having to play promise to regain public faith of Thailand's national team. in Vietnam in the semi-final.



Pachyderm liberos chase the ball at Thailand's Surin Elephant Round-up, an annual event where tourists marvel at the skill of the beasts and their riders AFP

has a huge responsibility in next ternational earlier this year when Thailand beat Indonesia

"With the help of the Engmonth's Asian Games. He must lish coach I'm confident the restore the reputation of a team Thai team will reach the final." tarnished by the farcical in- Thawatchai Satchakul, the new team manager, has said. "The players have apologised PETER WITHE, the ex-Aston in the Tiger Cup despite trying to football fans for the past and

Wimbledon cashes in on Henmania

MBLEDON MADE a record 63m profit from this year's championships, defying rain delays and competition from World Cup football in France. ma will assist Wimbledon in The 6.7 per cent increase was attributed to improved television and merchandising income and record 13-day crowds of 424,998 (20,000 up on the previous record).

Tim Henman's men's singles semi-final against Pete Sampras, the defending champion and world No 1, attracted a tele-

vision audience of 12 million. Wimbledon's profits have burgeoned at an incredible rate since passing £1m for the first time in 1981. As with other corts, television revenue is the key, and the Wimbledon rights are due to be renegotiated after next year's

While retaining the United Kingdom rights - discussions with the BBC are due to start soon - the All England Club have appointed a new broadcast-marketing partner in Europe, Prisma Sports and Media. "We are confident Pris-

strengthening its audience in Europe," said Ian Edwards, the club's television marketing

The rise of Henman and Greg Rusedski has heightened British interest in tennis at a time when the sport is having difficulty guaranteeing TV exposure elsewhere. The German market, which boomed with Boris Becker and Steffi Graf in the mid-1980s and become central to the world tennis economy, is a particular worry.

Prisma, also appointed to handle the European rights for football's World Cup in 2002 and 2006 on behalf of Germany's Kirch Group, is confident of tennis's future. "We believe that Wimbledon is one of the sport's greatest assets and, together with the other Grand Slams, will play a major role in leading tennis into the next century said Peter Sprogis, Prisma's

Wimbledon's profits go to the Lawn Tennis Association for the development of the sport and yesterday's cheque was deposited on the eve of the National Championships at the Telford International Centre, in Shropshire.

The Nationals were initiated in 1983 as part of the LTA's drive to provide an environment to

have since been invested in the previously neglected area of building indoor tennis centres

Telford presented the opportunity of an annual gathering of the "British tennis family", although from the competitive standpoint it was recognised that British players beating

WIMBLEDON'S RISING PROFITS

1980 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98

improve failing standards. their compatriots proved nothing Many of Wimbledon's millions on an international scale.

Rusedski's arrival from Canada to join the cause in 1995. and the home-grown prosperity of Henman, has given the British game a superficial aura

of well-being. Both players quickly outgrew the National Championships. Henman decided to

the men's singles title for the third time in a row last year sparing a day to pop over to Hanover for a day to beat Yevgeny Kafelnikov as a substitute at the ATP Tour Championship. The 24-year-old from Oxford will be in Hanover on merit next week. Rusedski, who

narrowly failed to qualify for a WORLD RANKINGS

Leading ATP rankings



257: 257 B Cowan 158, 289 M Magagar 126: 314 M Lee 115; 323 N Geold 105 342 A Richardson 97, 381 L Milron 35 418 J Delgado 71, 467 A Parmar 59,

forego the event after winning second consecutive appearance, recently gave his finest performance in defeating Sampras to win the Paris Open.

Without Henman and Rusedski, the National Championships is a truer reflection of the state of British game. That ought to be taken as a challenge by the players at Telford this week. Whatever the men and women achieve in competition with each other here, the important consideration is how they fare against international

opposition elsewhere. That is

the only way the British game

will gain any depth. Sam Smith, who defends the women's singles title here this week, made a considerable impact at Wimbledon last summer by defeating the former champion Conchita Martinez en route to the fourth round. Smith. No 65 in the world, needs a far greater challenge. from the vounger group if Britain is to regain a position of respectability in the women's

The top seeds in both singles events are due on court today

unlay starts at 10.30 amp. Chris Wilkinson, of Southampton, renews his rivalry with Surrey's Danny Sapsford, and Sam-Smith plays her Essex teammate Helen Crook. The 16-yearold Hannah Collin, from Surrey. the nation's top junior, plays Warwickshire's Louise Latimer,

the No 4 seed. Tim Henman is due at Birmingham's National Indoor Arena on Thursday to help launch Britain's Davis Cup World Group tie against the United States there next April. With Henman and Rusedski fit and in form. Britain will be confident of giving a game to whichever Americans decide to come, although the doubles rubber could be a problem given the squad's lack of depth

But should either Hennium or Rusedski be unavtelable - or. heaven forbid, both - then the thought of facing any group of Americans is not one to sayour. Fortunately there is still time

for the players at Teltord this week to ensure that Britain has a hearty squad to support Henman and Rusedski.

Davenport

undone by

resurgent

Graf

Shark victory is 'perfect' for Norman

GREG NORMAN made a triumphant return to competition by winning the Shark Shootout 17-under-par 55 - a tournaat Thousand Oaks in California Norman, who hosts the tournament, teamed up with fellow Australian Steve Elkington to net the first prize of £200,000 at the third play-off hole.

Norman, who had been out of action since April after surgery on his left shoulder, celebrated a perfect comeback by winning the tournament for the first time, rolling in the deciding putt to defeat the Americans Peter Jacobsen and John Cook.

"This is a perfect place for me to come back, at a team event," said Norman. "I felt the rush, which I needed to feel. The more I was under the gun. the more I got back in the groove." Norman, 43, has won 18 PGA titles and the Open twice as well as being the Henry Cotton Rookie of the Tour's all-time money winner with more than £8m. But this tour. The 28-year-old, who was only his fourth event this year because of his operation. Jacobsen and Cook forced

the play-off by pulling level with the Australians on a three-round score of 189 with a tremendous final round of Merit with £69,269.

ment record.

Hale Irwin has won his third tournament in eight days, beating his Senior PGA Tour rival Gil Morgan 6 and 5 in the finals of the inaugural Senior Match Play Challenge, Irwin, who had defeated David Graham 6 and 4 in the morning semi-finals, earned \$240,000 for Sunday's win at Bighorn Golf Club, Palm Desert.

Earlier in the week, he had won the Senior Tour Championship and was a member of the winning senior tour team in the Wendy's Three-Tour Challenge. Irwin's eight-day earnings were an incredible

The Frenchman Olivier Edmond has become the 34th reciplent of the coveted Su Year award on the European came through the tour's qualifying school at the fifth attempt, was joint second in the Peugeot French Open and kept his card for 1999 by finishing 93rd on the Order of



Greg Norman has lost none of his touch as he splashes out of a bunker at the third green in the Shark Shootout on Sunday

STEFFI GRAF will enter next week's Chase Championships in high spirits after rullying to defeat the top-ranked Lindsay Davenport to win the Advanta indoor event. The German won her second straight tournament by outlasting the American. 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

Graf broke Davenport to take a 5-4 lead in the final set and served out the match to claim her 106th singles title, and the third in only her 12th tournament of a season blighted by persistent injury:

"I'm right where I want to be," Graf said. "I didn't think I'd be here two weeks ago. Winning these last two tournaments shows I'm much further along than I thought I'd be."

Since coming back from wrist surgery. Graf won last week in Leipzig, and with her victory on Sunday, extended her winning stretch to 10 matches heading into New York. Graf's other title this year came in August, in

Connecticut. The 29-year-old will face the defending champion. Jana Novotna, in the first round at the season-ending event, which begins next Monday Graf, five times the champion, gained the final place in the 16-woman field, following Venus Williams'

withdrawal last week. For the second successive year, Davenport lost in the final. Last year, she fell to Martina Hingis in a third-set tie-break. "I think she's [Graf] been playing great since she's been

back." Davenport said. The 22-year-old was striving for a WTA Tour-leading seventh title this year but saw her seven-match winning streak

come to an end. Davenport is still assured of finishing the season at No 1 regardless of what she does at the Chase Championships next week, Martina Hingis, ranked second, cannot gain enough points to overcome Davenport, even if the Swiss wins the event in New York.

2548, 9 T Hennan (GB) 2,501, 19 t Kind-nikov (Rus) 2,423, 11 G Micedan (CB) 1,450, 12 G Harnstein (Croan 21)3, 13 H Kordo (CR Kopi 2,114, 14 A Costa (Sp. 1423, 15 M Philippoinsis (Austri, 72), 16 f Martin (PS, 1,774, 17 J Johansson (Swel 1,751, 18 C Pioline (Fr) 1,710, 19 J Semenini (Neth) 1,669, 20 F Mantilla (Sp. 1,743, Other British rankings: 179 C Williamon (Sr. 257, 8 Coman 198, 289 M Austrian 126, 314 Miles 115, 323 N Gould 105, 342 A Roman son 97, 381 L Khiligan 95, 418 J Delando 21

71
WITA TOUR RANKINGS: 11 Distance (105)
5339019: 2 M Hings (Sout) 4 8:37 3 1 New 2010; (C. Rep) 4(2-4), 4 A Souther Vestion (Soil 3:10.2 6 M School (US) 3:20.2 6 M School (US) 3:20.2 6 M School (US) 3:20.2 6 M School (US) 3:10 P Souther (Soil 3:20.2 6 M School (US) 3:10 P Souther (Soil 3:20.3 11 D Van Roest (Ba) 2:00.12 5 Graf (Cerl 1:597, 13 A hourafloor (Rasi 1:916, 14 8 1 hests) (Fig 1:1893, 15 1 Springs (Romi 1:810, 16 A Control (Sa) 1:75, 17 N Zecteva (Beta) 1:738, 18 8 3 Suppland (Lapan) 1:792, 19 5 Forms (II) 1:325, 20 A Huber (Ger) 1:347

Light Blues lifted by darker side Doyle signs new man Fu

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY took over the leadership of the Premier Holidays East Premier League, thanks to goals from the ex-Oxford pair Adam Laird. with two, and Roger Wilcox in their 5-2 win against Bishoo's Stortford. The Belgian Thierry Gruslin and Ian McClive completing the scoring.

It was a black weekend for he previous leaders, Peterporough Town, who went down 3-2 to Colchester and were then thrashed 8-1 by Bournville to go out of the Cup. Cam-

BY BILL COLWILL

bridge, with a game in hand, lead Peterborough by two points. The Light Blues will also have noticed that Oxford, following a crushing 6-1 defeat at the hands of Indian Gymkhana on Saturday, have now dropped to bottom place in the First Di-

vision of the National League. In the South, Fareham march on. They eventually points adrift of Fareham. overcame Maidenhead 3-2 to

maintain their maximum points ston-super-Mare 4-2 to maintain record. After Tom Miller had given the Hampshire side a two-goal lead, Maidenhead struck back to draw level with goals from Shoaib Raja and their player-coach, Mike Williamson, before Tim Tavender sank a rebound off the Maidenhead goalkeeper for the winner in the 65th minute. Despite only managing a goalless draw with High Wycombe, Wimble-

don stay second but are now six

Bath Buccaneers beat We-

their two-point lead at the top. in the West of England and South Wales Premier, while Robinsons returned from Wales with the points after a 2-0 win at Whitchurch thanks to two goals from Ian King, their former captain.

In the DTZ Midland Premier. Edgbaston edged home in a 3-2 game against Leek to stay four points clear of Harborne. There was a surprise 3-0 defeat for leaders, Formby, at Sheffield Bankers in the North.

MARCO FU, last month's SNOOKER talent and temperament to

Grand Prix finalist and the most exciting newcomer on the circuit this season, has add the world title to his world become the latest signing by the leading manager. Ian

Doyle. The 20-year-old from Hong Kong joins the formidable Cuemasters stable, which includes the former world champions Stephen Hendry and Ken Doherty as well as the UK Championship title

3 D Duval 9 85, 4 D Love III 9,65, 5 E Ets (SAI 9,61, 6 C Montgamerie (GB) 9 37; 7 N Price (Zim) 8,59; 8 V Singh 1 Fijh 8 42, 9 L Westwood (GB) 8,37; 10 P Micketson 7 96; 11 F Couples 7 36, 12 J Furyk 7 10; 13 M Osaki (Japan) 6,91, 14 G Norman (Aus) 6 49

HOCKEY

holder, Ronnie O'Sullivan. Doyle believes Fu has the

amateur and world under-21 championships.

"Maybe 1999 is too early to see him winning at the Crucible but I think it will happen eventually," Doyle said.

"It is fair to say Marco is the most important addition to our stable in terms of the development of the game

"I truly believe Marco gives

MOTOR RACING

Warburg Pincus, the fund management group, is to take a financial stake in the Jordan Formula One

RUGBY LEAGUE

the Far East its greatest chance yet of winning the world title." Fu, currently 51st on the

provisional rankings, lost 9-3 to Stephen Lee in the Grand Prix final at Preston. "It is an honour for me to

join the best squad of snooker players in the world," Fu said before establishing a 5-3 overnight lead against Gary Wilkinson, another of his new stablemates, at the Liverpool Victoria UK Championship in Bournemouth yesterday.

caph. J Duffy (Galvegums). D Corkery (Colli Constitution). E Halvey (Shannon). A Poley (Shannon) Replacements: P Stringer (UCC). S Horgan (Landowne). S Mason (Ballymen). E Byrne (St Mary Col-tern). E Byrne (St Mary Col-

TENNIS

WTA TOURNAMENT (Patraya, Thal) Singles, first round; 5 Yala (Croa) to H Nagy-ou (Stock) 6-5 2-6 7-6. Hzr [Lines to 8 Sangaram (Thao) 6-2 6-1, M Suchi (Jupan) to 8 Kenora (Ca Rep) 5-4 6-3, I. Courtos (Bel) to A Smashnoy (19) 6-6 6-4, N Brandi (US) be Callens (Bel) 6-4 6-6 6-9, Wang She-Ting (Lawy by O Wang) amalaba) (Thau) 5-5 6-U Yoshda Haman to I. Morin (SAI 6-5)

di (US) bt E Callens (Bel) 6-4 n-5 6-2, Wang Sh-Ting (Lawe) bt O Wangkamataba) (Thai) 5-3 5-0; Y Yoshida (Japani bt C Morn (SA) 6-7-6-2 6-3 LEADING ATP RANKINGS: 1 P Sumpras (US) 3,703pts: 2 M Ros (Chile) 3 670, 3 P Ratter (Aux) 3,315, 4 A Agussi (US) 2,879, 5 C Moya (SQ) 2,819, 6 A Cortety (Sp) 2,736 7 K Maxeta (SAshiA) 7,579, 8 B Magreek (Nettu

AMERICAN FOOTBALL AMERICAN FOOTBALL NFL Minnesota 24 Cincennata 3: Miami 13 Carolma 9: Buffalo 13 New England 10, Indianapolis 24 New York Jets 23: Washington 28 Philadelphia 3. Tennessee 23 Pittsburgh 14, New Orleans 24 St Louis 3. Atlanta 31 San Francisco 19, Green Bay 37 New York Glants 3: Dallas 35 Arizona 20 Seattle 17: San Diego 14 Baltimore 13: Jacksonville 29 Tampa Bay 24: Detroit 26, Chicago 3.

Berlin, the new franchise in the NFL Europe League, was yesterday finally given a name and will be know as

BASEBALL

Sammy Sosa, the Chicao Cubs bat-ter on a Major League team tour of Japan, yesterday auctioned bats and uniforms in Tokyo and raised more than 4.5m yen (£22,500) to help his homeland, the Dominican Republic, recover from the devas-tation of Hurricane Georges.

BASKETBALL The English Basketball Association have appointed Simon Kirkland as their new chief executive.

Bob Wood, the American co-owner and director of Worthing Bears, has sold his interest in the Budweiser League club to Romek Kriwald, the former chief executive of Richmond

BOXING

Paul Ingle's mandatory defence of his European featherweight title against the Welshman Steve Robin-son has gone out to purse bids. The contest must take place before 31 January next year. Brendan Kelly, the British lightweight boxer, has died at the age of 28 after being found unconscious on a road in west London.

Mai Loye, the 26-year-old England A batsman, voted the Professional Cricketers Association's player of the year, is staying with Northampton-shire after agreeing a new four-year

CONTRACT. SHEFFELD SHIELD (Final day of four): Perth: Western Australia 319 for 9 dec and 140 (D.J Saker 4-35); Victoria 254 for 9 dec and 203 (S.R.C.my 4-34). Western Australia woon by two runs. eton by two runs SUPERSPORT SERIES (Final day of four): Johannesburg: Natal 240 and 392 (S M Polioch 92, D J Warson 76, J N Rhodes 65, D J terbrugge 4-50); Gauteng 513 for 8

der and 120 for 2. Gastreng was by alght wickets. Bloemfontein: Western Province 223 and 414; Free Store 269 and 346 (N Boie 97no, 8 Dippenair 54; CR Matthews 4-70). Wistorbern Provinces was by 22 runs. East

FOOTBALL

Peter Jackson, the Huddersfield Town manager, is claiming mistak-en identity over the dismissal of his goalkeeper Nico Vaesen in the 3-1 defeat at West Bromwich on Sat-urday Jackson believes the defend-Mark Jackson fouled Fabian de Freitas and not Vaesen, and will ask the referee, Barry Knight, to review

Rangers' Uefa Cup third round first-leg meeting with Parma at Ibrox will be televised live by BBC Scotland on Tuesday, 24 November. The game will only be seen north of the border as the BBC have acquired, in the same competition, the rights to Liverpool's meeting with Celta Vigo on that

meeting with Cetta Vigo on that might.

REST OF THE WORLD SOUAD (v leafly Rouse, 16 December): Coach: J Westgors (Celtic). Gealitecepers: Taffared (Bra. Galitecaray). Paglisca (t, internazionale). Defenders: Blatchiacs (Ger. Bayen Munich). Micro (So. Real Madrid), Wo Sang Chul (S Kor), Black (Nigerla, Internazionale). Physiol. SA Caylari, Cafu (Bra. Roma). Thorram (Fr. Parma). Searce; (Ner. Guadalajara). Roberto Carlos (Bra. Real Madrid). Biddielders: Guerrero (Sp. Athetic Bilbao). Zidane (Fr. Juvettus). Joao Pinto (Pox, Benica). Design (Br. Jubio Iwara). Luis Hermandez (Mes. Necasa). Red Cocka (Pox, Forentina). Realizata (Japan, Perugia). Sforza (Swit, FC Kaiserlautern). Danields (Neth. Invents). Forusards: Shawtheatto (U.s. Opnato Kier). Raud (Sp. Real Madrid). Salain (Chie. Lazio). Suker (Coa, Real Madrid). Salain (Chie. Lazio). Salain (Chie. La

SPORTING DIGEST

SHARK SHOOTOUT (Thousand Oaks, Calif) Final scores (US miless stated): 189 G Norman (Aus) and 5 Bildingon (Aus) 58: P Jacobsen and J Cook 55 (Norman and Eli-ngton won on third play-off hole). 191 C Ro-Placossen and J Cook 55 (Norman and Eli-nation via on third plan-off hole). 191 C Roc-ca (It) and 5 Hoch 60: 192 J Daly and F Zoelte 61: T Kite and B Marylari 61: D Love and B Faxon 62: 193 F Couples and J Leonard 59. 195 B Creenaw and C Stadler 59: 8 Liet-zle and 5 McCarron 61: 196 H Sutton and G Day 60: 197 B Andrade and J Hase 66. 198 M Catcavectrils and A Magee 60. SENOR MATCH PLAY CHAIL INKE (Palm Dentect. Call[®]): Semi-Roaks: H Invitri (IS)

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN UNDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP GROUP THREE

Northern Ireland v Moldova..... (at The Showgrounds, Coleraine) UNDER-21 FRIENDLY MATCH

England v Czech Republic (7.45) .. (at Portman Road, Ipswich)

Darlington v Burnley (7.45).... (at Riverside stadium, Middle

FA CUP (Sponsored by AXA) FIRST ROUND

NATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE THIRD DIVISION Rochdale v Scarborough (7.45)

FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

RYMAN LEAGUE Premier Division: Aldershot v Aylesbury (7.45); Chesham v Purfleet; Hendon v Dagenham & Red-bridge; Slough v Basingstoke (7.45).

Doncaster v Barrow (7.45) Veovil v Kettering (7.45)

ICE HOCKEY NHL: Chicago 2 Ottawa 2 (of); Colorado 2 Vancouver 1

First Division: Chertsey v Worthing: Leyton Pennant v Grays. Second Division:
Northwood v Barking: Wiwenhoe v
Leighton: Wokingham v Hungerford.
Third Division: Croydon Athletic v
Hornchurch: Dorking v Ford Utd: Egham
v Inng. Esthmian League Cup second
round: Harrow Borough v Bedford Town:
Berkhamsted v Canvey Island. Pursa
Cup first round: Sutton United v Walton & Hersham; Romford v Staines. Vandanel Trophy first round: Marlow v
Lewes.

Lewes.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE CUP First round first leg: Shepshed Dynamo v Paget, Tamworth v Gresley: Havant & Waterlooville v Weymouth. First round second leg: Burton Albion v Moor Green.

UNIBOND LEAGUE First Division: Droylsden v Witton; Grerna v Nether field Kendal; Lincoln Udd v Hucknali; Trafford v Ashron; Whitey Bay v Farstey League Cup

Ashton; Whitley Bay v Farsley, League Cup second round: Spennymoor v Guiseley.

second roward: Sprinymour v sussex; UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE Premier Division: Buckingham v Long Buckby, Ford Sports v Wootton; Eynesbury v Valley, Potton v Blackstone: St Neors v Stotfold; Spalding v Boston.

HOCKEY BHA CUP Peterth-retail draws Bourdon v Loughborough Students: Cannock v Harrogate; Canterbury v Peticans: Chemistord v Vimmbledon, Chichester v Lewes, Doncaster v Clacton; Hounslow v Norton; Indian Gymkhana v Brooklands, Old Crailelghans v Bourrwille; Old Loughbonlans v Nortingham; Richmond v Reading, Robersons v Old Georgans; Sheffield v East Grinstead; Southgate v Bromley Surticon v leadington; Wischester v Northampton Saints (Ties to be played on Sunday 6 December). Swinton Lions have signed Cliff Eccles, the 31-year-old ireland international prop. from Salford Reds in a 12-month deal.

RUGBY UNION RUG BY UNION
RISH COMBINED PROVINCES (v South
Africa, Musgrave Park, Cork, 24 Nouember): C Clarke (Terenur College). K
Reity (Cork Constitution). K Keane (Garyowen), M Musphy (Galvegians). J Cunmingham (Ballymena): B Ewertet
(Larsdowne). S Bell (Dungannon): R Corrigan (Larsdowne). A Clarke (Dungannon).
J Hayes (Shannon). M Galvey (Shannon.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE Pre-mier Division: Sheppey v Thamesmead UNLIET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE

v Northern Counties East League Premier Division: Arnold v Hallam. League Cup second round: Brodsworth MW v Harrogate Railway, Denaby Utd v Borrowash Victoria. JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier

& PARIESTON.
THE TIMES FA YOUTH CUP Second rounds Northampton v Stevenage ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN LEAGUE FIRST District. Marske'v Billing-

PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division:
Derby v Preston (7.0), Everton v Stoke
(7.0) (ar Widnes RICL, Sunderland v
Nottingham Forest (7.0) (at Durham City
FC), First Division: Manchester City v
West Bromwich (7.0) (at Altruchom FC):
Oldham v Barnsley (7.0), Sheffield Wed
v Coventry (7.0), Second Division: Brodiord v Shewsbury (2.0); Notts County v
York (7.0) Taird Division: Halifax v
Chesterfield (2.0)
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Division: Wick v Portfield SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Division: Chippenham v Backwell. NORTH WESTERN TRANS LEAGUE Elect Divisions Nanovich Valuabil GM First Division: Nanovich v Valuatali GM League Cup first round: Prescot Cables v Kidsgrove. AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION First Divisions Milavali v Cambridge (2 0), Tottenham v Barnet West Ham v Gueen's Park Rangers (7 45)

Devisions Bury Town v Stowmarker, Dis-v Gorleston: Great Yarmouth v Falenham; Lowestoft v Sudbury Town, Newmarker, v Warboys: Sudbury Wanderers v Histon, Watton v Wrodnam, Woodbridge v Harwich TOUR MATCHES: Cambridge University v Fiji (3.0): Edinburgh Reviers v South Africa (7.0) (al Easter Road, Edinburgh)

OTHER SPORTS

RUGBY UNION

TENNIS: British National Championships (Telford).

TODAY'S NUMBER 500

The number of French cyclists who will be drug-tested next year - an initial examination and four random tests – to trv to avoid a repeat of this year's Tour de France scandal



RINGMASTERS P27 • WHIPPING BOY MCCOY BANNED P28

Old but golden is Hoddle's outlook

GLENN HODDLE had no misgivings yesterday about sending in Dad's Army to do battle with the Czech Republic in tomorrow night's friendly at Wembley. A strike force with a combined age of 94 is being asked to succeed where even the dazzling young Michael Owen has failed this season - by putting a smile back on the face of English football following the grim start to the European Championship campaign. Dion Dublin (aged 29), Ian Wright

(35) and Paul Merson (30) are your step," Hoddle said. expected to lead England's attack in the absence of Alan Shearer, Teddy Sheringham and Owen. It had been I was a player. You're not in your hoped that Leicester City's 20-yearold Emile Heskey might bring the average age down to a less geriatric level but he is struggling with a hamstring injury which prevented him from training yesterday. If he plays at all, it will only be as a substitute probably late in the game.

Hoddle seemed to be expounding a variation to a theme: if they're old enough they're young enough. "It's Blackburn's Tim Sherwood] you not a problem for me if they're performing well - and they are," he said. "Ian Wright, for instance, was terrific on Saturday and as for Dion Dublin I saw him put in a marvellous performance down at Southampton. Those boys are keeping themselves fit and are in good habits - they're prolonging their careers."

sage here for the absent Paul Gascoigne, who is still recovering from a drink problem. As Hoddle added: that can improve on that side as well. "It's a good lesson for some of the But he's trying to deal with it." youngsters who are coming through and certainly for the 27 to 28-year-starter and though Merson, Wright olds - if you look after yourself you and Jamie Redknapp all missed can prolong your career."

Hoddle felt that the change of club sure whether Messrs Robson and Strachan would agree with that, and after the way Arsenal have

BY CLIVE WHITE

struggled to score of late, perhaps Arsene Wenger, too. "There comes a time when you've been at a club for a long period when a change of chub, a change of coach, even a change of supporters can be good for you. It probably comes at the best time when you're round about thirtyish, it can give an added spring to

"Another set of curtains open up when you get to that age, it did when prime, but the game becomes so much easier providing your legs and mind are still able."

The England coach refused to be drawn on the sending-off incident involving David Beckham at Old Trafford on Saturday. "I will talk to David about that privately," he said. "I'm sure if it was David Beckham who'd got sent off [rather than would have been asking me about that, too. He has dealt with the spotlight as well as he could have done since the World Cup."

Hoddle said he did not think Beckham's apparent temperamental frailty had made him the target of opposing players trying to provoke him. "Tve seen good performances mances at times that I like to see. But there's still an element to him

Paul Scholes is another doubtful training yesterday, due to the weekend's exertions, they are expected to had helped all three, though I am not be fit. Gareth Southgate was not due to join up with the squad until last night because of a personal problem.



Dublin's mission page 30 Nicky Butt leaps over Graeme Le Saux as England prepare at Bisham Abbey for tomorrow's friendly international with the Czech Republic

United's Antwerp deal

MANCHESTER UNITED and fore avoid the need for a work won the backing of Wales for his

permit when they sign for Unit-

ed, was rejected by Ramsden. United's manager, Alex Fer-

guson, denied that he is in the

race to sign Aston Villa's goal-

keeper, Mark Bosnich. The Aus-

tralian international is out of

contract at the end of the season,

when Peter Schmeichel plans to

leave Old Trafford. "We've shown

absolutely no interest in Bosnich

whatsoever," Ferguson said. "Because he's available for free

at the end of the season and be-

cause he was once a player

The Football Association's

port about financial help for the 24 hours subject to a medical, Football Association of Wales. once his departure from Mar-

ofball Association of Wales. once his departure from Mar-The FA chief, who recently seilles has been finalised.

chairman. Keith Wiseman, is to

take legal action following a re-

here, these stories grow.

THE TUESDAY CROSSWORD



Having a position in the craft centre (8) 5 A fellow going with blonde? (6)

Extend replanting of glen subsequently (8) 10 Flier gets cheer drinking port (6)
12 Bridge player's current amount of port (11)

15 They could provide silver lining for one doctor in Ulster (5) 17 Limit of vision of mean

cricketer (4,5)
18 What could be on Ben's 3 nut when hot? (3.6) 19 Japanese-American returning with one eastern 4 vice? (5)

20 One forced to have a

24 A right place for a mira-cle to reveal mysteries

25 Plan is taking time for political reformer (8) 26 Fish keeping right in channel (6) 27 PP coloured at this suggestion? (8)

> Shun smiles displaying stubborn nature (10) One due to change intended not to keep a res- 16

olution (10) Come out of your shell when taken in hand by old PM (5) Supremely flamboyant in Inner Temple yard (3-9) 6 Fellow I call on unlisted number is a bit cocky? (6,3) American's all right in a frenzy (4) Game editor gave indi-

Monday's Solution

cation of sorrow (4)
11 Take the display to be a success? (5,3,4) 13 Discouraging under-world USA characters flying to Jerusalem (10) 14 Cunning about nuclear weapon in a harsh

way (10). In part of body one with carbon would not be such a compound (9) 21 Street charge leads to punishment (5) Big money for the old in tax (4) 23 Pounding hearts seen in

one? (4)

BY MYLES HODGSON in Cairns

> Crawley was attacked in Cairus on Sunday night after an evening out with team-mates. The Lancashire player was set upon by an unknown assailant just after 11pm as he returned alone to the team's hotel after spending the evening socialising with England and Queensland players in the city centre.

Antwerp signed a "Memoran-

dum of Co-operation" yesterday, committing the clubs to swap

loan players on a regular basis. United officials were quick to

deny that the agreement

amounts to a takeover, or that

it would allow them to bring

non-European Union players to

ply come to an agreement with

them whereby we can send play-

ers to play in their team and vice

versa." United have already sent

Talk that United will use the

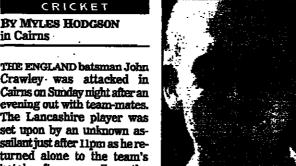
arrangement to sign non-EU players and allow them to gain Belgium citizenship, and there-

Danny Higginbotham, a reserve

team player, to Belgium.

England via the back door. United's spokesman, Ken Ramsden, said: "We have sim-

Crawley was verbally abused and punched by the assailant, who was drunk, causing him to fall to the ground, sustaining cuts and bruises to his face. Crawley did not attend yes-



Crawley: Cuts and bruises

which the tourists won by one wicket, but his injuries will not affect his contention for a Test

The tour manager, Graham Gooch, spoke to Crawley yesterday about the incident. After terday's final day of England's lengthy discussions, England tour match with Queensland, have decided not to inform the

Drunk attacks Crawley police and will not be taking fur-

nomination by the British as-

sociations as a vice-president of

world football's governing body

Fifa, has defended himself in

the wake of claims made

against him in the Mail on

Sunday. Wiseman intends to

sue Associated Newspapers. Tottenham's goalkeeper,

Espen Baardsen, has become

the first player to impress

George Graham enough for

the new Spurs manager to offer

him a new contract. He is dis-

cussing a new five-year deal. Andreas Köpke, the German international keeper,

should complete his free trans-

fer to Rangers within the next

ther action. Gooch said: "John was naturally upset by the matter, but other than the cuts and pruises to his face, he is fine and fully fit. We considered informing the police, but John is keen to put the matter behind him and concentrate on the forthcoming Test match."

Gooch added: "We would also like to place on record our thanks to the people of Cairns as, aside from this one unfortunate incident, we thoroughly enjoyed our stay there and received excellent hospitality."

England flew out of Cairns to Brisbane yesterday before the first Test, which starts on Friday, and will train at the Gabba for the first time this

Croft the hero, page 29

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